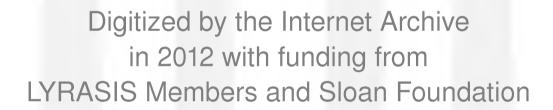
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FAGE IN THE SKY



Ruth Ann Mayberry

It was one of those Saturday mornings in late fall when the wind was blowing just enough to create a feeling of restlessness and to remind one of approaching winter. I was at home alone with a list of household duties that I was rushing through.

We were having revival at our church that week, and we had all promised to pray that souls would be saved and unconcerned Christians would be stirred. Somewhat ashamedly I realized that in my concern for my household duties, the weightier matters of the Lord had been neglected.

Surely there is time for a hurried prayer, I reasoned. That was what it was planned to be: one of those "prayers of convenience"—you know the kind. But, as it has been said, the best laid plans often go awry; and suddenly my mind went back to a passage of Scripture in the Old Testament:

Thus saith the Lord God unto Jerusalem; Thy birth and thy nativity is of the land of Canaan; thy father was an Amorite, and thy mother an Hittite. And as for thy nativity, in the day thou wast born thy navel was not cut, neither wast thou washed in water to supple thee; thou wast not salted at all, nor swaddled at all. None eye pitied thee, to do any of these unto thee, to have compassion upon thee;

Continued on page 4

but thou wast cast out in the open field, to the lothing of thy person, in the day that thon wast born. And when I passed by thee, and saw thee polluted in thine own blood. I said unto thee when thou wast in thy blood, Live; yea, I said unto thee when thou wast in thy blood, Live (Ezekiel 16:3-6).

God was speaking to His chosen people Judah. Often he had to remind them of their former condition, just as He often does us. He loved them when no one else cared:

Now when I passed by thee, and looked upon thee, behold, thy time was the time of love; and I spread my skirt over thee, and corered thy nakedness: yea, I sware unto thee, and entered into a covenant with thee, saith the Lord God, and thou becamest mine" (Ezekiel 16:8).

After all the love that Almightv God had shown His people, when He returned to hear the praise of their lips and to see the gratitude of their hearts, He found them worshiping idols. Hence, this passage of Scripture was a message to His people reminding them of their former condition.

Suddenly I realized that this was not meant just for the children of Israel, but also for all His people today! Suddenly, too, my 'prayer of convenience" took on a different note as the tears began to flow. "My God," I praved, "how often do those You have bound to Yourself, by Your Spirit, fail You!"

All of us have at one time or another failed the Lord. Some who once followed Him closely are now following at a distance. Others do not follow Him at all. And still others—as I had done that morning—simply allow other things to fill the time and thereby neglect the One who matters most.

The realization was not pleasant; and, repentantly, I lifted my head and looked out the window, all the while praying and crying to Him.

The sky was filled with little fleecy clouds that gently blew across; and in my diligence to pay due respect to my Master, I was paying very little attention to them—that is, until I saw a face in the sky. Some may have called it just a cloud formation; still others may not have noticed it at all. But it was clear enough to me to make me cease my earnest prayer and hold my breath, my heart racing.

There was a face slowly moving across the sky—a face formed by and framed by the same billowy little clouds to which I had paid little heed. The shoulders also were apparent on this figure, who reminded me of a shepherd slowly moving through his sheep and looking down upon them. Everything in my being was drawn toward that figure. Everything in my soul told me that my Savior was passing by. Like metal is attracted to a magnet, my soul was attracted to that face.

And suddenly the walls around me seemed to melt. For a time I was not conscious of the bed by which I was kneeling. It was as though I was in the open field, under the all-seeing eye of the Almighty. And I could say nothing. I had no defense except Him, no covering but His blood and Ilis holy robe of righteousness. And that is really how it is when Christians consider His matchless grace and mercy!

Slowly my awareness of the things around me returned, and the figure gradually moved out of view. The tears were flowing so freely that my vision was blurred. I grabbed a Kleenex, dabbed at my eyes, and rushed to the window; but it was gone. For a

long while, I stood there searching the sky, hoping upon hope to see just a fleeting glimpse once more. But there was only the blue of the autumn sky, gentle lacy clouds, and the restless blowing of the falling leaves.

In my excited soul the Scripture rang over and over:

Ye can discern the face of the sky; but can ye not discern the signs of the times? . . . Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come (Matthew 16:3; 24:42). Watch ve therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man (Luke 21:36).

A few years have passed since that Saturday morning, but often I have had to remind myself that at such a time when I least expect it, the Son of God could come. And there will be those who will be unprepared. There will be those who have known Him and yet will not be looking for Him when He comes. There will be those who will figure they have plenty of time to prepare, and the coming of Christ will come upon them as a thief in the night—they will still be sleep-

ing spiritually.

On the other hand, however, there will be young and old alike who will stand gazing as I stood at the window that morning searching the sky for just one glimpse of that gentle face; there will be the faithful few who will be ready—the faithful few who have remained close enough to Him to be covered by His righteousness and who have lost the stain of sin in the blood of Jesus Christ. May the God of heaven help us to be in that number! +

About the Author

Employed at Mason Candy Company in Birmingham, Ruth Ann attends the Dilworth (Alabama) Church of God.

the scriptures say so

By Fred D. Killman

When the school-prom question comes up, where do you stand? When your science teacher says men and monkeys share a common ancestry, how do you determine your belief? When there are differences of opinion as to moral and spiritual standards, how do you find out which is right?

The problem does exist! In a Sunday school class, Joe inquired, "How do you know what is right? I'm getting confused—like, our church teaches that you shouldn't go to motion-picture shows, yet other churches say it is all right. It seems to me that it just depends on what your church teaches."

"Well, I've decided that everybody should do his own thing and not care about what others do or think," chimed in Dave.

"The pastor says motion pictures are wrong," said Sue; "and if he says so, it must be wrong."

Which of the two solutions—Dave's or Sue's—would you have taken? You should have taken neither: both of them are wrong! Any real solution should begin with the words, "The Scriptures say. . . ."

The trial-and-error method of determining right and wrong is dangerous. Human life is dark, relative to human experience. Some can manage decisions better than others, but in the long run everyone who depends on his own mental and moral strength will fail. "It is not in man that walketh to direct his steps" (Jeremiah 10:23).

The psalmist said that there is a sure, positive way to make right moral choices: "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path" (Psalm 119:105). The Word of God is relative to all possible human experiences and dangers. The light of the Word enables us to live uprightly: (1) it offers us general principles and moral strength, so that we are prepared for every testing time; and (2) it offers us precise guidelines for emergency situations.

"The Bible is okay for you, but it doesn't speak to me," some teens argue. But, the marvel of the Scriptures is that they are relative to every individual's circumstances and needs.

Scriptures help us see things differently. They do not create problems; they only reveal them. The doctrines contained in Seriptures represent eternal faets and brings these to light.

This light of eternity transforms the whole appearance of life. Under its rays "all things... become new" (2 Corinthians 5:17). Pleasures, sorrow, money, food, houses, decisions are still there; but they take on new eolor and new ranks of interest.

One writer said, "When the sun rises, the horrible monsters that loomed on us through the night resolve themselves into homely barns and familiar trees, while the distant mountain range that had been invisible before displays its silent solitudes in all their splendor." The Bible is a lamp, a lantern, a torch, a polestar, a lighthouse, and a pillar of fire to guide us.

So what place do you personally give to the Word of God in determining eonduct? If you are eonfused by many voices and changing times, why not judge all that you hear and see by what the Scriptures say? Ask yourself three questions: (1) Is this action or attitude expressly forbidden in the Word of God? (2) Am I aware of what the Bible teaches concerning this issue? (3) Am I willing to let the teaching of the Bible be authoritative and determine my conduct?

The last question often becomes a problem to us, and we begin to judge ourselves by ourselves and those around us. Paul helps us with this situation: "For we dare not make ourselves of the number, or compare ourselves with some that commend themselves: but they measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise" (2 Corinthians 10:12).

We must allow the Bible to be our standard and the judge of our actions. Traditional, parental, pastoral, and friendly advice may serve us well. However, in the long run, the Bible is the only firm foundation upon which we can establish our faith.

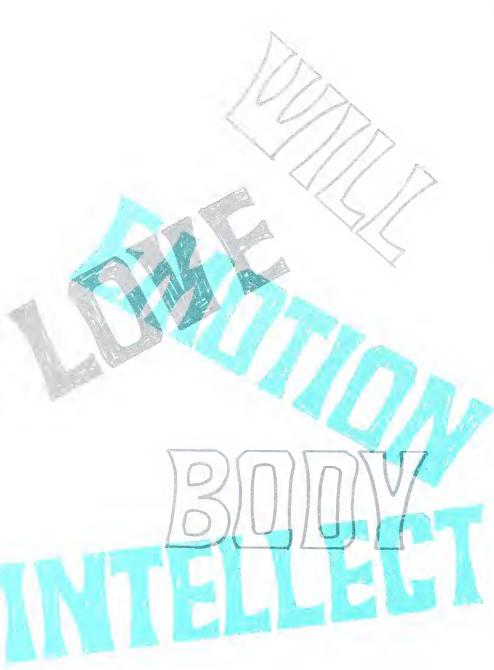
A song that we sang as ehildren and will love forever says, "Jesus loves me! this I know, For the Bible tells me so." What a wonderful truth and what marvelous proof! Just as we learned this Bible truth and applied it to our lives, so must we apply this truth to all situations—something is either right or wrong because "the Bible tells me so"!+

About the Author

Fred is director of youth and Christian education in Oklahoma.

GETTING ITALL TOGETHER

(The Total Christian Life)



By Lamar Vest

"It's all so confusing," lamented one troubled teen. "There are so many different opinions as to what a Christian should or should not do I hardly know what to do."

This business of trying to please God and others at the same time has always been an impossible task. It is impossible because what is permitted by one self-designed standard is rejected by another. What brings a smile of approval to one face brings a frown of

disapproval to another.

There are many one-sided eoncepts of the Christian life. Some people piek out one area of Christian living and hang all hope on it. There is a serious danger in doing this. When a person majors on one element of the Christian life, a one-sided character is developed. Most of these put-all-your-eonvictions-in-onebasket people belong to the "gnat-straining, eamel-swallowing" breed who are always ready to send anyone to hell who doesn't see eye to eye with them on every issue. Perhaps the greatest need of our time is to gain a elear eoneeption of the total Christian

Let's consider a few one-sided concepts of the Christian life. First, there is emotionalism. There are actually people who think that Christianity is only an eestatie feeling of emotion, and they judge a person's salvation by his emotional display. Granted, there can be no personal relationship without emotion, but salvation involves more than mere feeling. Feeling is the eonsequence of a right relationship with God through Jesus Christ, which is salvation. There is no seripture which tells us how we are to feel when we become Christians. We may each react

differently, according to our own emotional character. However, all saved people have one thing in common—each has responded positively to the sacrificial death of Jesus Christ and has accepted Him as Lord and Savior.

Then, there is intellectualism. In this day of Gurus, Krishnamurti, and transcendental meditations some people have tried to define Christianity as a system of thought. Of course, Christianity does involve the intellect (it involves the whole man); but simply to accept it as a system of thought does not make one a Christian.

The Pharisees prided themselves in their intellectual concept and thorough knowledge of the law. They had thought it all through; but Jesus said to them; "You pore over the seriptures, for you imagine that you will find eternal life in them. And all the time they give their testimony to me! But you are not willing to come to me to have real life! Men's approval or disapproval means nothing to me, but I can tell that you have none of the love of God in your hearts. I have come in the name of my Father and you will not accept me" (John 5:39-43; Phillips).

Don't wait until you get all your intellectual problems solved before you give yourself to the Christian life; and don't think you are a Christian because you have no particular intellectual difficulties in accepting the Christian life. Neither will make you a Christian. Brumbaugh once said, "To inform the mind is one thing; to enrich the soul is quite another thing."

Probably the most prevalent one-sided misconception is that humanitarianism—the doing of good deeds—constitutes the Christian life. No generation has ever involved itself more in the social ills of society than has ours. That's all good, but it isn't

necessarily Christianity. Christianity is not doing good deeds; rather, doing good deeds is the expression of Christianity—it is a natural outgrowth of the Christian life. The individual who thinks himself religious and has no genuine concern for his fellowmen is sadly mistaken. But good deeds alone are not enough. Paul said, "But when the kindness of God our Savior and his love toward man appeared, he saved us—not by virtue of any moral achievements of ours, but by the cleansing power of a new birth . . ." (Titus 3:5, 6; *Phillips*).

Ready for some straight-fromthe-Book talk? God is not impressed with our demonstrations of goodness. He keeps the reeords. He knows the heart. He knows those things which are done for personal gain, for credit, or to show our own philanthropie proficiency. He also knows the things which are done for His honor and His glory. While we are busy judging the motions that men make, God is judging the motives that make men.

Jesus was never impressed by the applause-seeking do-gooders. He watched them go through their rituals of handing out gifts in the streets like Santa Claus on Christmas Eve, and He warned: "They have their rewards." He watched them flash the big coins and lay them in the Temple treasury, but He was more impressed by two pennies inconspicuously dropped in by a poor widow. It had nothing to do with money—it was a "heart" condition.

Do your good deeds have a bogus ring to them, or do they come from a rich, inner personal experience with Jesus Christ? Only you know the answer (and, of course, God).

There are many more one-sided concepts of the Christian life which need discussing, but space only permits one other: legalism.

If our conduct is the result only of obedience to the letter of the law, we fall into legalism. Simply molding our life around any series of rules and regulations will not make us Christians, for rules and regulations may be carried out without any pure motivation at all.

Law doesn't necessarily make people good—just eautious. Jesus does more. He places His love within us and this becomes the overwhelming motivation behind all that we do. Jesus knew that it was worse than useless to tell a person to be good. That's why He never commanded us to keep His eommandments. However, He did say, "If ye love me, keep my eommandments" (John 14:15). He not only gave commandments, but He supplied the power to keep them. If you really love Him, vou won't find it difficult to do what He says.

So, Christianity is not emotionalism, intellectualism, humanitarianism, or legalism. Then what is it? Christianity involves the whole personality—emotion, intelleet, body, and will-responding to what God-for no other reason than divine love—has provided for us. Christianity is a relationship. It is a personal relationship to a personal God as He is revealed in a specific person: Jesus Christ. Out of this relationship comes a growing desire and determination to become all that God has in mind for us to be.

The key to living a successful Christian life is that obedience to Jesus Christ becomes the first and central principle of your life. Live so that His nature becomes your way of life. Christ in you—that's what Christianity is all about! —

About the Author

Since September, 1972, Lamar has been administrative assistant in the General Youth and Christian Education Department.



HERE COMES THE BRIDE

By Douglas LeRoy

There is a "new wedding" fad sweeping across America. Many young couples are refraining from participation in the traditional wedding ceremony. They want a personalized wedding of their own choice.

A new bride from Virginia comments: "When Tom and I planned our wedding, we talked about all the formal church and hotel affairs we'd been to—those of friends and relatives—and realized how empty and phony they were, with all that etiquette junk. Everything was done for the parents, who just wanted to show off for their friends. You never knew what the couple was like, and

you never cared; and there was no real joy at all. We knew we wanted to have something uniquely ours."

Unlike the traditional church setting, most "new weddings" take place outdoors—beach, hilltop, meadow, park, cave, rock, swimming pool, etc. Music ranges from Rodgers and Hart to "Hair" and is usually performed by friends of the bride and groom. Instrumental music is very popular, especially the guitar and the flute. Readings may come from Browning, Tennyson, or Cleaver; vows may be completely original. In one "new wedding" the bride and groom turned to each other adoringly and repeated the Boy Scout oath, reaching an emotional climax with the words "thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent."

In a "new wedding" couples either wear what they'd be wearing on any other day or make an attempt to wear some unusual garb.

One of the most remarkable weddings—old or new—took place last summer in Marshall, California. Seventy-one couples, all in nineteenth-century dress, took their vows simultaneously at an educational center for drug addicts. Two thousand guests viewed the ceremony. Recently over three hundred couples were married simultaneously in Hong Kong.

One of these days, soon, an even more unusual wedding is going to occur. It will be the most elaborate ceremony the world has ever known—the King of kings will marry His Bride, the Church.

"Let us be glad and rejoice, and

give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready" (Revelation 19:7).

"And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband" (Revelation 21:2).

In her song, "Here Comes the Bride," Ruth Munsey has described the event in these words: What a celebration on that day, It can't be very far away; When Heaven's Bridegroom shall

When Heaven's Bridegroom shall descend, The ransomed Church of God

ascend,
Heaven's bells will sweetly ring,
Choirs of angels start to sing,
Pick up your trumpet Gabr'el and
blow.

Here comes the Bride to be ever at His side;

The robe is spotless white— O what a glorious sight, Here come the chosen ones, Here come the raptured ones, Angels step aside, Here comes the Bride.

This unusual marriage of Christ to the Church will follow the Oriental pattern of marriage as described in the New Testament.

The Betrothal Stage

New Testament marriages were often arranged when the couple was very young (sometimes even prior to birth) by the groom's father. He would sign a legal cnactment before the proper judge, pledging his son to a chosen girl. The father would then offer the proper dowry payment. Thus, even though the bride had never seen the groom, she was nevertheless betrothed or espoused to him. The betrothal stage consisted of two events: the selection of the bride (Ephesians 1:3, 4) and the payment of the dowry (1 Corinthians 6:19, 20).

The Presentation Stage

At the proper time the father

would send to the house of the bride, servants carrying the proper legal contract. The bride would then be led to the home of the groom's father.

When all was ready, the father of the bride would place her hand in the hand of the groom's father. He would then place her hand in that of his son.

Applying this background to the marriage of the Lamb, the Church still awaits this second phase, the presentation stage, which we know as the Rapture (Ephesians 5:25, 27; Revelation 19:7, 8). The heavenly Father will send for the Bride (1 Thessalonians 4: 16, 17; Revelation 4:1); the proper legal papers of marriage will be shown (2 Timothy 2:19); and the Bride will be taken to the Father's home (John 14:2, 3).

The Celebration Stage

After the private marriage service was completed, the public marriage supper would begin. To this many guests would be invited. It was during such a celebration that Jesus performed His first miracle.

Teen-ager, if you are a Christian, then you are part of the Bride. You should maintain your love affair with Christ and be given completely to Him.

If you are not a Christian, you can be. Why not repent of your sins today and become part of the Bride for this great wedding ceremony?

Pray: "Jesus, forgive me of my sins. Make me pure and spotless. Make me part of the Bride." †

About the Author

Douglas is administrative assistant to the Editor in Chief of the Church of God.

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Many books have been written to help the bride and groom plan their wedding, but this concise *Wedding Guide* contains every detail for planning any type of wedding. Hazel Ashmore has clearly defined each step in an easy-to-do manner.

Being the lovely Christian wife and mother that she is, Mrs. Ashmore is active in her community in Montgomery, Alabama. Her worthy contributions to the church, school and civic projects has placed her in the 1970 edition of *Outstanding Young Women of America*. During the twelve years Hazel has been in advertising, she has authored a large, fully illustrated wedding book and has been engaged as a wedding consultant.

Not only is *Wedding Guide* the complete handbook for the bride and groom, but every minister's wife should have a copy in her personal library, since she is often asked to assist with wedding plans. The pastor will also find this book a real help for this occasion.

-Mrs. R. Leonard Carroll

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THE BAD DREAM

By Cecil H. Lewis



John Anybody sank into a troubled sleep and fitfully began to dream. A sense of foreboding hung over him as he tossed and turned upon the bed. He dreamed he was reading the sports page of a newspaper. But it wasn't the scores of his favorite football team that caused the turmoil in his subconscious: it was the headlines that held him spellbound and activated every nerve in his body. MILLIONS MISSING ALL OVER THE WORLD!

He turned the radio on, and the news about what had happened appeared on every station. Many disasters had taken place during the night when suddenly car drivers, airplane pilots, train engineers, and many other people had disappeared. He ran to the bedrooms. His wife and children were not there. Could it be so? Could it be possible that the Lord had really come?

His whole life passed before him as if he were watching a movie screen. Each time he saw the opportunity he had had to give his life to Jesus Christ and had turned down. The realization that now it was too late stung him like multiplied bee stings!

Is there any hope? The only way to be saved is to give my life to Christ, but can I? He didn't feel the same conviction, the same urge he had said no to a thousand times before. A sense of failure and shame swept over him. He had failed to heed his wife, the church, and—above all—the Holy Spirit. And now he was standing here, an

utter fool in the hands of the devil.

He knew he had to plan the next few days very carefully. There would be no time to waste. He had to tell everyone he possibly could about all that would happen in the next seven years. Funny! Now I believe it! But I cannot allow myself to think about that now. I really must live by faith, as hard as it might be. But how long do I have, he wondered.

Things began to happen fast. Finally the day came. He was found out. Someone turned him in for carrying a Bible and preaching Christ. He had been seen through his window, on his knees, crying and pouring his heart out to God.

He was taken to the place of execution. He refused to take "the mark of the beast." He was reminded of the three Hebrew children and the fiery furnace. The order was given to execute. Beads of perspiration broke out on his face. This time the

fourth Man, like the Son of God, was not here. He was alone and so afraid. He wondered, for the last time, Why did I wait so long? He cried out for help, but no one heard—no one cared.

John awoke with a start. He was wet with perspiration and was trembling from head to foot. The sun was just breaking the dawn. It will be time to get up soon anyhow, he thought, so I may as well stay up now. He knew if his life depended on it, he couldn't go back to sleep!

Wow, what a dream! Maybe it's God trying to warn me. I've made up my mind. I'm going to give my life to Jesus at the very next service we have at our church.

Still shaking, he went to the front door and retrieved the morning newspaper. He felt suddenly numb. He turned to the sports page, trying to still the fear that had caught in his throat. The headline had caught his eye: MILLIONS MISSING ALL OVER THE WORLD!



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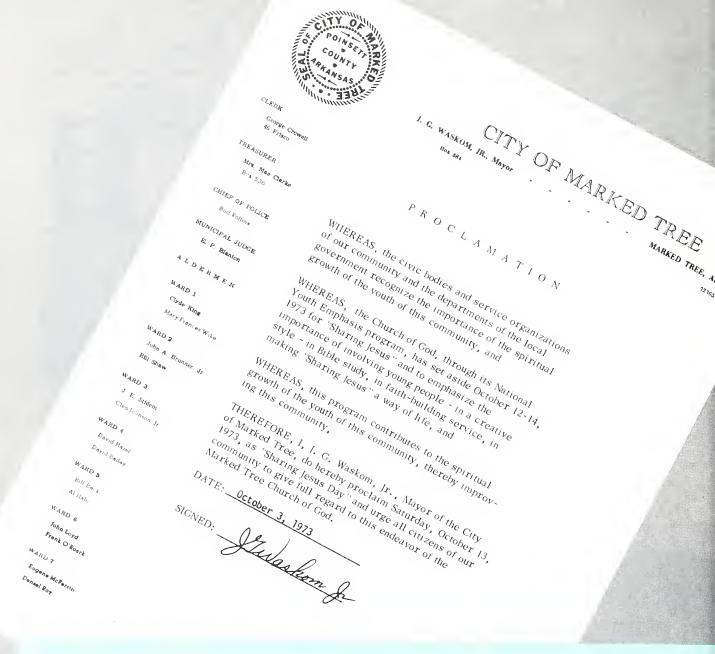
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THE CHALLENGE—COMMUNICATING THE WORD Church of God youth in North America have a rare opportunity to join the youth of Europe in raising funds to help reach the masses for Jesus Christ.



SHARING JESUS WAS A GREAT SUCCESS!

From strategic points all across the Sunshine State comes the clear, sure word that hosts of young people have adopted a new life-style—that of SHARING JESUS—during the recent churchwide National Youth Emphasis bearing that name! Although by no means complete, early returns indicate that the Lord's army of young volunteers has increased manyfold. Doubtless, many pastors did as the Reverend W. W. Thomas of West Lakeland did. He and his young people expanded the effort to include youth emphasis services at the local church each evening during the days preceding emphasis weekend. This was, in Brother Thomas's words, "a tremendous program . . . real impact."

 James Byrd, state director Florida Tennessee young people responded to the "Sharing Jesus" promotion with real excitement. A young man, after becoming involved in the "Sharing Jesus" activities, exclaimed, "Man, this is great!"

One youth leader writes: "Our 'Sharing Jesus' experience was unforgettable. The Lord was near us in every activity and service. He gave us a revival of love. Perhaps the greatest blessing to result from the effort is the burden for the lost that has touched our people—both youth and adult."

Another leader writes: "One Sunday evening following the 'Sharing Jesus' experience, six people stood and testified of how they had asked God to put someone in their paths so that they might share Jesus with him.

—W. A. Davis, state director Tennessee Pennsylvania youth were definitely involved during the recent National Youth Emphasis program. The striking theme, "Sharing Jesus," became an actual reality in the lives of our youth.

We received many exciting reports of participation. Pastor David Sustar of Manns Choice, Pennsylvania, stated, "Our youth were challenged by the program. I was elated with the spiritual results among my youth." Pastor Robert Varner of Levittown, Pennsylvania, expressed, "'Sharing Jesus' met a definite need in the lives of our youth. It thrilled them to have the opportunity to share their faith with others."

—Orville Hagan, state director Pennsylvania

Campus evangelism

THE SINGERS III: "SOME OF OIL"

"The gospel," said Dr. R. Moffatt Gautrey, "is not an old, old story freshly told. It is a fire in the Spirit, fed by the flame of Immortal Love."

Many are the ways of expressing that fire; but regardless of the means, the goal is always the same: to tell someone of Jesus and of His power to transform lives.

When a child of God prostrates himself before the altar and cries, "Here am I; send me" (Isaiah 6:8), he is presenting himself as a candidate for divine service. He is saying, "Lord, use me-like You used Zerubbabel and Joshua of old. Anoint me and make me an instrument of Your lifeflowing power, to be fed continuously with the oil of the Holy Spirit! Then pour me out on others, as a flood on dry ground!" (See Zechariah 4, Amplified.)

Sound way out? It is, in a way. It's super stuff—the kind of stuff the bold ones are

made of. Samuel Chadwick explained it this way: "The sign of Christianity is not a cross but a tongue of fire." E. M. Bounds cried amen when he said, "Love is kindled in a flame, and ardency is its life. Flame is the air which true Christian experience breathes."

In other words, when a person has the love of God burning way down deep inside of him, he is aglow with fire. And that fire compels him to "go, and tell" (Isaiah 6:9).

Four young men who "went" out this last summer to "tell" others of Jesus were the Singers III from Lee College. These select vocalists from the Lee Singers are Lynn Hancock, a senior from South Carolina who sings lead; tenor Bob Laughlin, a senior from Michigan; Danny Murray, a junior from North Carolina, who sings baritone and alternates with Lynn for the lead; and the pianist, Phil Thomas

—a sophomore from Florida and a 1972 Teen Talent winner.

For a newly formed group (they began singing together at the 1972 General Assembly), they had come a long way at the time: they had one LP album to their credit (entitled simply, "Singers III"), another in the offing, and many fans. And then to top it all off, they were asked to take part in an unprecedented summer recruitment idea for the school: to attend camp meetings and youth camps and to sell young people on Lee College.

Recuperating from semester finals, they set out June 1, 1973, to minister to youth in session and song. Since the whole arrangement was the school's idea, the bookings had been made through Paul Conn, chairman of the Recruitment Program, or through Dr. Delton Alford, director of the Lee Singers. In addition, three faculty members—Paul Conn, Paul Duncan, and Tommy Russell—were also

doing the recruitment scene and accompanying them from time to time; as was Ron Gilbert, a Lee graduate who plays the drums.

Bob Laughlin, who has been with the Lee Singers for three years, states, "Our number-one objective was to let the young people see Jesus Christ in us and to let them know that we really believe what we're singing about."

And indeed they do. Even in the Afterglow services, where they met with high-school juniors and seniors to rap about Lee College, they were careful to zero in on the spiritual aspects of the school—its old-line conservatism, its Christian principles, and its contemporary setting—as seen through the eyes of a student.

The precollege set were, in turn, enthusiastic, responsive, and impressed. "We're proud to be Church of God members—no backing up about that," Danny quickly inserts. "Put simply, we had a feeling of being instrumental with these kids. Some of the most rewarding moments came as we saw lives changed."

Bob joins in. "I think they realized that we are stable Christians who do not fluctuate—that is, go away to college and forget everything Mom and Dad's taught us. These kids got the idea, If Lee can help these guys, Lee can help me. They're just regular guys like we are.

"Too," he continues, "I feel that there is more freedom to worship at Lee than ever before since I've been there. Lee is more of a melting pot; there's more ethnic acceptance and less class distinction. I wanted the kids to know that."

Of course, the schedule was hectic—even trying at times; for example, one night they were in Pennsylvania and the following night they were

in Los Angeles. Of that incident, Phil replies, "We drug in at the last minute—no time even to change our clothes. We stepped out of the car right on stage. . . We were driving a station wagon and pulling a U-Haul, which held our sound equipment. Sometimes terrible things happened—like once we had four flats in two days—"

"—and blew an engine—"Danny puts in.

"—and ran out of gas several times because of the shortage," Bob remarks, " one time, twice in one night!"

Phil rounds it out with these words, however: "It's been an eye-opening experience, rewarding and memorable. We really enjoyed it."

All told, they made seventeen youth camps and five camp meetings, in addition to many one-night stands and weekend revivals. They visited sixteen states and one foreign country (Mexico) and traveled over 30,000 miles. "We've given a lot this summer," the quiet one, Lynn, points out; and then contemplating, he

adds, "but it doesn't begin to compare with the benefits."

"Most of all," Bob can't help testifying, "It was great to see the way the Spirit moved, convicting and blessing. The Spirit anointed our singing, and we really made an impact for God."

And hearing Lynn sing, "Love Him so, love Him so, oh, I really love Him so," from their Jesus Medley, a person can understand why. It's more than an "in" sound; it's more than trained voices doing what they've been trained to do; it's more like bedrock communication: one person sharing something alive and glowing with someone who may never have heard!

For it is "not by might, nor by power, but by My Spirit [of Whom the oil is a symbol], says the Lord of hosts... And he answered me, Do you not know what these are? And I said, No, my lord. Then said he, These are . . . sons of oil . . . anointed ones—who stand before the Lord . . . [as His anointed instruments]" (Zechariah 4:6, 13, 14; Amplified). **



ENERGY CRISIS ON COMPUS

Ave You Ready To Use Student Power?

"Power to the people!"
This slogan was used by Bobby Seales, of Chicago Seven fame, in his unsuccessful bid to become mayor of Oakland, California. He emphasized the need of returning political power to the wishes of the individual citizen.

The Watergate scandal has revealed the need for integrity in government and the need for citizen involvement. Power does belong to the people. It belongs to those who dare to think and to act.

As a student, you release that power for good or for bad, depending upon your personal commitment. Dean Wicks of Princeton recently said that a sign that a boy had passed out of his childish stage and had become a man was the discovery of some important enterprise concerning which a boy could say, "I belong to that!" instead of "That belongs to me." Have you reached that place of commitment? If so, then you are ready to use student power.

The student can release this power in the search for truth. Many have adopted the philosophy that "What you don't know, won't hurt you." But this is erroneous. For God's Word says: "And ye shall know

the truth, and the truth shall make you free" (John 8:32). Freedom-lovers are seekers of truth and men of truth are followers of Jesus. For Jesus is truth (John 14:6).

You can also use student power to effect social change. The Christian student holds no grudge or prejudice. He treats every person in the same manner. He gives to the poor and he gets involved with individuals. He is not afraid to share and care. He is visionary, because he knows that a person cannot reach beyond his vision.

The source of this power is not only mental and physical, but it is also spiritual. Jesus has promised to every believer "big power" by the Holy Ghost (Acts 1:8). It is yours for the asking.

Just think what can be done by a student who is a seeker of truth, who is involved in making this a better world, and who is possessed with spiritual power to accomplish the great task. That person can make a real impact on today's challenging world.

Power—'big power''—to the people! ■



Campus Evangelism

Church of God - Youth and Christian Education Department

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"Truthway" is a campus evangelism promotion prepared four times a year for the Lighted Pathway by the General Department of Youth and Christian Education—compiled by Floyd D. Carey; art work by Lonzo T. Kirkland.



Where Are YOU Now?

Be honest with me now. Where are you, really? I don't mean where you are physically. but where you are in your inner life—the personal world

of your soul.

Does your life seem empty and lonely? Does it have meaning and direction? Or, are you simply drifting aimlessly in a world which has little meaning for you. Perhaps you feel like a stranger even in your own family. You may feel that you have little, if any, control over your life. And in such a state you may have reached the conclusion that nothing, not even yourself, is really significant or important.

Honestly, now, where are you? Have you allowed the materialism about you and

the philosophies of the world to rob you of the faith and hope which brings true meaning and purpose to life? Let's face it, most people today are concerned only with what they can possess and feel and touch and enjoy.

You may be lonely and alienated, feeling that you don't fit in anyplace. Like so many around you, you may have allowed yourself to become cynical and skeptical of the beliefs and values on which true living depends.

Perhaps you have been frantically searching to find out who you really are. You may have turned to pleasure, sex, drugs, music, meditation, violence—anything to fill the emptiness in your life.

But this kind of searching is doomed to more futility and more failure. For at the root of the struggle of knowing who you are, and the solution to the problem of loneliness and of finding meaning in life is commitment . . . commitment to Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

Commitment to Him is the answer to your boredom and your restlessness. He is the good news where there is no great adventure or purpose in vour life.

But commitment to Jesus Christ does not come cheaply . . . it is a costly commitment. It means that Christ rules in your life and it demands that you live differently from the world about you. As a result, you leave the old life behind and become a part of the great adventure which Jesus has planned for you.

Where are you now—right now? Jesus Christ is calling you to follow Him! It is a question of yes or no, of obedience or disobedience. Choose Christ and begin to really live!



THAT GOD LOVES YOU ! PLAN FOR YOUR LIFE?

JOHN 3:16 JOHN 10:10



MAN IS SINFUL AND AND HAS A WONDERFUL SEPARATED FROM GOD, THUS HE CAN'T KNOW AND EXPERIENCE GODY LOVE AND PLAN FOR HIS LIFE .

> ROM. 3:23 JAMES 2:10 ROM. 6:23 ISAIAH 64:6 HOW CAN I SOLVE THIS

SIN. THROUGH HIM YOU CAN KNOW AND EXPERIENCE GOD'S LOVE AND PLAN FOR YOUR LIFE. ROM. 5:8 1 PETER 3:18 JOHN 14:6 I GET IT!

JESUS CHRIST IS GOO'S | WE MUST INDIVIDUALLY | YOU CAN RECEIVE JESUS AS SAVIOR AND LORD! THEN WE CAN KNOW AND EXPERIENCE GOD'S LOVE AND PLAN FOR OUR LIVES.

JOHN 1. JOHN 1:12 JOHN 3:1-8 REV.3:20



ONLY PROVISION FOR MAN'S RECEIVE JESUS CHRIST RIGHT NOW. JUST PRAY THIS PRRYER IN FAITH: LORD JESUS, I NEED YOU I OPEN THE DOOR OF MY LIFE AND RECEIVE YOU AS MY SAVIOR AND LORD, THANK YOU FOR FORGIVING MY SINS, TAKE CONTROL OF THE THRONE OF MY LIFE, MAKE ME THE KIND OF PERSON YOU WANT ME TO BE.



MAN: GOD'S ROSE By Elaine Hammonds

The rose is considered by some to be the most beautiful flower in the world. And that is what man is to God—His most beautiful creation!

Man is so much like the rose. Consider, for instance, that, like the rose, man has thorns—the thorns of sin. But just as you cannot separate the thorns from the rosebush, you cannot separate man from his sins—except in Christ. Because of the death of Jesus Christ on Calvary and the shedding of His blood, God has promised to forgive our sins and to remember them no more.

Too, without having the proper eare, a rosebush will not be healthy and strong; sometimes it may even look as though it is dying. Nothing ean save it but a transplant. In such eases, a good gardener will cut the rosebush down to a sapling, down to the place where it will have a new beginning. In new soil, pruned down to size, the sapling must grow new roots in order to live a strong life.

When man is saved from sin, God—the master gardener—transplants him as a gardener would a rosebush. He is then planted in good soil—the Word of God—where his roots will grow and he will become firmly established.

A rose, after being transplanted, must have the proper care. (A plant—or a new convert—will die unless it grows and has proper care.) The bush must be watered every day; and so must man be watered by the living waters of the Holy Spirit.

The water is just as important as the soil in which the rose is planted. Without both the soil and water, the rose eannot live. Man eannot live a Christian life without both the Word of God and the Holy Spirit.

A rosebush must also live in the right atmosphere. It will grow well if it has enough warmth, etc., from the sun, but it will wither and die if it gets cold. Man will grow well in the Word of God if he receives the warmth and light and love of the Son of God, but man will die and spend eternity in hell if he allows himself to grow cold.

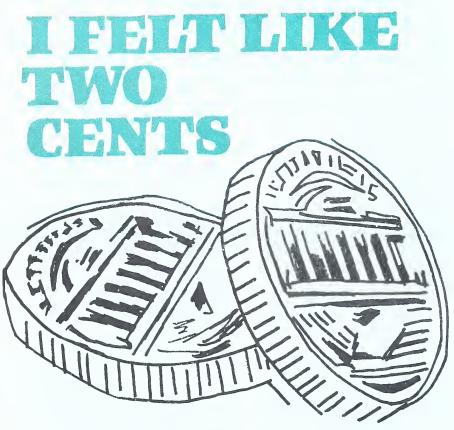
And last, if man gives up his Christian life, he will appear in God's sight as the rosebush without any roses—barren and lifeless. If he allows only the thorns of sin to show, he will be consumed by fire because he will be ugly and worthless in God's sight (Isaiah 64:6).

On the other hand, though man must live with the memory of his sin (if you break a thorn off a rose stem, a sear will remain), he does not have to allow sin to have dominion over him. The beauty of the rose is so magnificent that people searcely notice the thorns! So it is with the beauty of a Christian life: You can so live that people will see not the sinner who once dwelled there, but the beauty of Christ.

May the Lord help us to be God's rose and reflect the image of His Son. \pm

About the Author

Elaine lives in Hilo, Hawaii, where her father pastors the Church of God.



By James A. Guynn

. . . I felt like two cents!

How often have we heard such words from those who have been embarrassed? It is a humiliating experience to be made small in the eyes of others. As John Ruskin expressed it, "If we do not learn humility, we will learn humiliation."

The difference between humility and humiliation can be summed up in one word—

pride.

Obadiah gives us a description of the Edomites whom the Lord was going to make small, and the reason was their pride:

Behold, I have made thee

small among the heathen: thou art greatly despised. The pride of thine heart hath deceived thee, thon that dwellest in the clefts of the roek. whose habitation is high: that saith in his heart, Who shall bring me down to the ground? Though thou exalt thyself as the eagle, and though thou set thy nest among the stars, thence will I bring thee down, saith the Lord (Obadiah 1:2-4).

Edom looked on but would not become involved when Israel was taken away eaptive. Now, the Lord was pronouneing the

bringing down of Edom. Sydney Smith has said, "The proud never have friends; not in prosperity, for then they know nobody; and not in adversity, for then nobody knows them."

We will do well to remember that humility and pride eannot exist at the same time in our hearts. One must rule, and that one depends upon us.

Genuine humility does not make us the object of pity. Rather, it causes us to see ourselves as God sees us.

Jesus taught the discipline of self-abasement in Matthew 23:12, "And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted."

"What we think is what we are," someone has said. It is true: our thinking does develop our moral character.

The Apostle Paul gives us something to help our thinking:

Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things (Philippians 4:8).

If we will allow these things to fill our minds and mold our lives, we will not need to seek humility in the sense of appearance, because we will have lost sight of ourselves in the light of God's inspection.

"Better it is to be of an humble spirit with the lowly, than to divide the spoil with the proud" (Proverbs 16:19).

"Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up" (James 4:10). \pm

About the Author

James pastors the Mount Healthy Heights Church of God in Cincinnati, Ohio.

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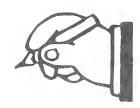
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		Poinsettia	Contrast		Cl. Pink Radiance	Luxemberg	Picture	Rex Anderson
		Mirandy	Condesa d	le Sastaga	Cl. White Am Beouty	Golden Da	wn K. T. Marshall	White Am Beauty
FLOWERING SHRUBS—	*White Fringe, 2 to 3 ft 1.29 ea.	Champion Peach, 1 to 2 It	59 ea.	Grapes	Little of Niagara, 15-1 (Red Everbearing Raspb	erry, 1 2 to 1 ft29 ea.
1 or 2 Years Old	Japanese Flow, Cherry, 3 to 5 ft 4.49 ea. European Mountain Ash, 3 to 4 ft 2.98 ea.	Champion Peach, 2 to 3 fl Champion Peach, 3 to 5 fl	. 98 ca 1 29 ca		Concord or Fredoma, 12-1 Delaware or Catawba, 12		Dewberry, 1,2 to 1 ft.	
Crepe Myrtle - Red, Purple, Pink,	Paul's Scarlet Hawlhorn-	Maygold Peach, 1 to 2 If	59 ea.	Kudzu V	Vine, 15 to 1 If	29 еа.	Boysenberry, 15 to 1 to Blackberry, 12 to 1 tt	
White, 1 to 2 ft	*Big Leat Cucumber, 3 to 4 ft	Maygold Peach, 2 to 3 ff Maygold Peach, 3 to 5 ff	98 ea.	Gold Fla	ame Honeysuckle 1 (t	29 ea	Gooseberry, 2 yr., 1 1	!!
Spirea Van Houttie Whife, f-2 ft	*Paw Paw, 3 to S It	Blake Peach, 1 to 2 ft	.59 ea.	Yellow	et Creeper, 12 to 1 tt Jasmine, 12 to f ft	29 ea. 59 ea	Figs. 1 to 2 It	1.49 ea.
Weigela — Red or Yellow, f to 2 ft 29 ea.	*Sourwood, 2 to 3 tt	Blake Peach, 2 to 3 ft	98 ea,	*Vinca	Minor Clumps	08 ea.	BULBS, AND P	ERENNIAI S
Weigela—Var. or Pink, 1-2 ft29 ea.	Yellow Buckeye, 1 to 2 ft	Blake Peach, 3 to 5 ft	t.29 ca.	Halls H	oneysuckle, 1 It	29 ea.	1 or 2 Y	
Althea—Red or Purple, 1 to 2 tt 29 ea. Althea—Pink or White, f to 2 ft 29 ea.	Dwarf White Buckeye, 1/2 to f ft 69 ea.	Stayman Winesap Apple, 4 to 6 It	1 98 ea.	Boston	Ivy. 4 to B inch	29 ea.		
Forsythia— Yellow, 1 to 2 lt	Red Flowering Dogwood, 1 ft 1.49 ea. Red Flowering Dogwood, 2 lt 2.49 ea.	Red Delicious Apple, 2 to 3 ft Red Delicious Apple, 4 to 6 ft	1.19 ea.	Euonym	us Coloralus, ½ fo 1 lt	29 ca.	3 Pampas Grass W	hile Plumes\$1.29
Pink Spirea, 1 to 2 ft	Red Flowering Dogwood, 3 to 4 ft 3.98 ea.	Early Harvest Apple, 2 to 3 ft.	t.19 ea.	Eugnymi Eugnymi	ronze Ground Cover, f yr Hs Kewensis, ½ fl	19 ea,	12 Hibiscus, Mallow I in Mixed Color	s 1.29
Tamarix—Pink, 1 to 2 ft	5-N 1 Flowering Crab, 3 ft 3 98 ea.	Early Harvest Apple, 4 to 6 ft	1 96 ea.	Virginia	Creeper, 12 to 1 It	29 ea.	B Hollyhocks, Mixed	Colors, Roots 1.49
Bush Honeysuckle-Red, Pink, While,	Red Leal Peach, 2 to 3 It,	Red Rome Beauty Apple, 2 to 3 to Red Rome Beauty Apple, 4 to 6 to					10 Cannas, Red, Pint	rple 1.49
1 to 2 ft	SHADE TREES 1 or 2 Years Old	Red Jonathan Apple, 2 to 3 It	1.19 ea.	NU	JT TREES—1 or 2 Years	Old	*20 Day Lilies, Rools,	Drange Flowers 1.29
White Flowering Quince, 1 to 2 lt	Silver Mante 3 to 4 II 9 40 as	Red Jonathan Apple, 4 to 6 lt Lodi Apple, 2 to 3 ll	1.98 ea.	Hazel N	ul, 1 lo 2 lt	\$.79 ea.	8 Creeping Phlox, Pr	
Persian Lilac—Purple, f to 2 ft 49 ea. Dld Fashion Lilac—1 to 2 lt 49 ea.	Silver Maple, 3 to 4 II	Lodi Apple, 4 to 6 It	1.98 ea.	Hazel N	ut, 3 to 5 It	.1 98 ea.	6 Fancy Leaf Caladi	um, Red, While. 1.59
Bridal Wreath Spirea, 1 to 2 ft49 ea.	Chinese Elm, 2 ft19 ea.; 3-4 lt39 ea.	Grimes Golden Apple, 2 to 3 ft.	1.19 ea.	Bulternu	ut, 3 to 4 ft	_t.98 ea.	50 Gladiolus, Mixed	Colors 2 98
Hydrangea P.G., 1 to 2 lt	Chinese Elm, 4 to 6 tt	Grinies Golden Apple, 4 to 6 tt. Yellow Transparent Apple, 2-3 tt.		Chinese	Chestnut, f to 2 It	79 ea.	B Alyssum, Gold Du- 8 Anthemis Vellow	st 1.29
Dak Leaf Hydrangea, 1/2 to 1 ft	Green Weeping Willow, 4 to 6 ft 98 ea.	Yellow Transparent Apple, 4-6 ft.	1.98 ea.		Chestnut, 3 to 5 ft ecan Seedlings, f to 2 ft		8 Carnation, Red, Pi	nk, or White t.29
Deutzia—Pink, 1 to 2 ft	Catalpa Tree, 2 to 3 lt	Yellow Delicious Apple, 2 to 3 ft	1.t9 ea.		Pecan-Papershell, 2 It		6 Coreopsis, Sumbur	st Double 1.29
Mockorange—White, 1 to 2 ft,29 ea.	Ginko Tree, 1 to 2 tt	Yellow Delicious Apple, 4 to 6 ft. Early McIntosh Apple, 2 to 3 ft.		Stuart P	ecan-Papershell, 31/2-S ft.	4.95 ea.	6 Bahysbroath White	. Semp. While . 1.29
Sweet Shrub, 1 to 2 tt	Pin Dak or Red Dak, 2 to 3 ft	Early McIntosh Apple, 4 to 6 tt.	1.98 ea	Mahan P	Pecan – Papershelf, 2 ft Pecan Papershell, 3-S ft	∡.98 ea. 4 95 ea	6 Gaillardia, Red	t.29
Red Dzier Dogwood, 1 to 2 ft29 ea.	Pin Dak or Red Dak, 3 to 5 ft 1.49 ea.	5-N-1 Apple—-S Varieties on		Black W	fainut, 1 to 2 it	39 ea.	6 Blue Flax (Linum)	1.29
Pussy Willow, 1 to 2 ft	Willow Dak or Scarlet Dak, 2 ft 98 ea. Willow Dak or Scarlet Dak, 3-5 ft 1.49 ea.	each tree, 3 ff	1.98 ea.	Black W	alnut, 3 to 5 ft	1.49 ea.	a Shasta Daisy, Alas 4 Delphinium Dark	ika
Pussy Willow, 4 to 6 ft 98 ea. Russian Dive, 1 to 2 ft	Lombardy Poplar, 1 to 2 ft	Montmorency Cherry, 4 to S It.	298еэ	Shell Ba	Walnut, 2 to 3 ft, ork Hickory, 1 to 2 lt	3.98 ea. 79 ea.	6 Tritoma, Mixed .	1.29
Russian Dlive, 2 to 3 ft	Lombardy Poplar, 2 to 3 lt	Black Tartarian Cherry, 2 to 3 It.	1.90 ea.	America	n BeechCollected, 3-4 ft.	79 ea.	6 Dranthus, Pinks .	1.29
Red Barberry, 1 to 2 lt	Lombardy Poplar, 4 to 6 ft	Black Tartarian Cherry, 4 to 5 lt. Early Richmond Cherry, 2 to 3 tt.	2.98 ea.	Japanese	e Walnut, 3 to 4 ft	.1. 90 ea,	5 Sedium, Dragon B.	olors 1.29
Red Snowberry, 1 to 2 It	Faassen Red Leaf Maple, 3-5 ft4.98 ea.	Early Richmond Cherry, 4 to 5 ft.	2.98 ea.	FVE	DODEFNC 4 0 V		4 Clematis, Yellow	
White Snowberry, 1 to 2 ft	Sycamore, 3 to 4 tl	Kieffer Pear, 2 to 3 lt Kieffer Pear, 3 to 5 lf	t.49 ea.	FAF	RGREENS—1 or 2 Years	s via	B Fall Asters, Red (or White t.29
Spirea, Anlhony Waterer- Red, f It59 ea. French Lilac-Red, White, Purple,	*Sugar Maple, 2 to 3 ft	Drient Pear, 2 to 3 II.		Glossy A	Abelia, 1/2 to 1 It	\$.29 ea.	*6 Yucca, Candle of	r Lavender 1.29 Heaven 1.29
1 to 2 II	*Sugar Maple, 3 to 5 ft	Drient Pear, 3 to S It	1.98 ea.	*America	an Holly, ½ to f ft lendron, ½ to 1 ft	29 ea.	5 Driental Poppy, S	carlet t.29
Scotch Broom, 1 to 2 ft	Sweel Gum, 2 to 3 tt	Bartlett Pear, 2 to 3 ft Barllett Pear, 3 to 5 ft	t.49 ea.	Plitzer J	luniper, 1/2 to 1 ft	79 ea.		c, or White 1.29
*Hypericum, 1 It	White Birch, 2 to 3 ft	Moorpark Apricot, 1 to 2 ft	1.98 ea.	Cherry L	aurel, 1/2 to 1 ft	29 ea.	3 Dahlias, Red or Pir	low 1.29
Buttertly Bush—Purple, 1 to 2 ft	White Birch, 4 to 6 ff	Moorpark Apricot, 2 to 3 ft	1.19 ea.	Nandina, Boxwood	, ½ to 1 it	49 ea.	3 Dahlias, Purple oi	Yellow 1.29
Butterlly Bush—Pink, f to 2 lt	Tulip Tree, 2 to 3 lt	Early Golden Apricot, 1 to 2 ft		Trish Jur	niper, 1/2 to 1 lt	59 ea.	3 Liriope, Big Blue .	d 1.29
Vitex—Purple, 1/2 to 1 tt	Crimson King Maple (Pat. No. 735),	Early Golden Apricot, 2 to 3 tt Nectarine, 1 to 2 lt		Savin Ju	niper, 1/2 to 1 tt	59 ea.	o emope, variegate	1.26
Azalea-White, Purple, Red or Pink,	3 to 5 ft	Nectarine, 21/2 to 4 lt	98 ea.		ry Pyracantha, ½ to 1 ft Berry Pyracantha, ½ to 1 ft.		BERRIES, FRUITS	AND HEDGE
1/2 to 1 lt	Sunburst Locust (Pat. No. 1313), 4 to 6 ft	Damson Plum, 1 to 2 ft Damson Plum, 2½ to 4 ft		Burlordi	Holly, 1/2 to 1 ft	49 ea.	1 or 2 Ye	
*Rose Acacia, f ft	Cut Leaf Weeping Birch, 3 to 5 tt 4.98 ea.	Red June Plum, 1 to 2 It.	59 ea.	Dwarf Bu	urtordi Holly, 1/2 to 1 ft	69 ea.	101210	at 5 Utu
*Black Chokeberry, 1 to 2 ft	Silver Variegated Maple, 3 to 5 fl. 4 98 ea.	Red June Plum, 21/2 to 4 ft	1.19 ea.		of Ligustrum, ½ to 1 fl Blue Spruce, ½ to 1 ft		10 Rhubarb, 1 year F	Roofs \$1.90
*Hydrangea Arboresence—1 to 2 ft29 ea.	Schwedler Maple, 3 to 5 ft 4.98 ea. *Yellow Wood, 2 to 3 ft	Bruce Plum, f 10 2 It	59 ea.	Mounta	un Laurel, 1/2 to 1 It	29 ea.	10 Asparagus, 1 year 26 Strawberry—Blake	Roofs 1.00
Spice Bush, 1 to 2 tt	Canoe Birch, 3 to 4 fl	Methley Plum, 1 to 2 It	79 ea.	*Canadia	an Hemlock, 1/2 to 1 ft, eal Pine, f It,	29 ea.	Tenn. Beauty .	1.25
Arrowwood Viburnum, 1/2 to 1 It 59 ea.	White Ash, 3 to 4 lt	Methley Plum, 21/2 to 4 ft		Slash Pi	ne, 1/2 to 1 ft	29 ea.	2S Gem Everbearing 100 South Privet, 1 to	Strawberry 1.50
*American Elder, 1 to 2 lt	Persimmon, 1 to 2 It	Burbank Plum, f to 2 ft Burbank Plum, 21.2 to 4 ft	1.t9 ea.	*Red Ce	dar, 1/2 lo 1 lt		25 North Privel, 1 to	2 ft 2.49
*Dpossom Haw, 1 to 2 It	Dawns Redwood, 1 to 2 ft2.49 ea.			Japanese	olly, 1/2 to 1 lt Holly, 1/2 to 1 ft	59 ea.	2S California Privet,	1 to 2 ft 2.49
False Indigo—Purple, 1 to 2 ft	Honey Locust. 3 to 4 ft	DWARF FRUIT TREES-	_	Foster H	folly, 1/2 to 1 ft	79 ea.	25 Mulliflora Rose, 1	lo 2 ft 2.49
Burning Bush, 1 ft	Kentucky Cottee Tree, 1/2 to 1 ft	2 or 3 Years Old		Helleri F	Holly, 1/2 to 1 fl	\$9 ea.	NATIVE WILO	FI OWEDS
	*American Linden Tree, 2 ft	Dwarf Elberta Peach, 2 to 3 ft.	\$2.49 ea		Holly, 1/2 to 1 ft		1 or 2 Ye	
FLOWERING TREES-	Skyline Locust (Pat. No. 1619),	Dwarf Elberta Peach, 4 to 5 It.	3.98 ea.	Andorra	Jumper, 1/2 to 1 ft	69 ea.	Collected from	
1 or 2 Years Old	4 to 6 tt	Dwarf Red Haven Peach, 2 to 3 tt.		Jan Yew	Deodara, 1/2 to 1 ft	69 ea.	Conected from	ine mountains
Magnolia Grandiflora, 1/2 to f ft \$.69 ea.	Sassalras, 1 to 2 ft	Dwarf Red Haven Peach, 4 to S It. Dwarf Belle of Georgia Peach, 2-3	. 2.49 ea.	Baker Ar	borvitae, 1/2 to 1 ft	59 ea.	5 Lady's Slipper, Pink	
Magnolia Niagara, 1 to 2 ft 1.49 ea.	*Scarlet Maple, 4 to 5 ft4.98 ea.	Dwarf Belle of Ga Peach, 4-S It	. 3.90 ea.	Berckma	n's Arborvitae, 1/2 to 1 ft	59 ea.	6 Blood Root, While I 6 Dutchman Breeches	lowers1.29
Magnolia Rustica Rubra, 1 to 2 ft 1.49 ea. Magnosa—Pink, 2 ft	Russian Mulberry, 2 to 3 ft	Dwart Golden Jubilee Peach, 2-3 Dwart Golden Jubilee Peach, 4-5		Greek Ju	borvitae, 1/2 to 1 ft	59 ea. 59 ea.	4 Jack-in-the-Pulpit, F	Purple 1.28
Mimosa—Pink, 3 to 4 ft	*Black Gum, 2 to 3 ft	Dwarf Red Delicious Apple, 2-3 ft	l 2.49 ea.	Gardenia	-White, 1/2 to 1 ft	69 ea.	3 Dogtooth Violet, Yel	low 1.20
Mimosa—Pink, 4 to 6 ft	Japanese Red Leaf Maple, 1 ft 2.49 ea.	Dwarf Red Delicious Apple, 4-S It Dwarf Yellow Delicious Apple, 2-3	3.98 ea.	Norway	—Red, 1/2 to 1 ft, Spruce—1/2 to 1 ft		20 Hardy Garden Viole 3 Partridge Berry	., orue 1.29
American Red Bud, 4 to 6 ft 90 ea.	Norway Maple, 1 to 2 ft	Dwarf Yellow Del. Apple, 4-S ft.		Euonymu	s Radican, 1/2 to 1 ft	29 ea.	3 PassionHower	1.29
White Flowering Dogwood, 2-3 ft	Golden Weeping Willow, 4 to 6 ft	Dwart Winesap Apple, 2 to 3 lt	.,.2.49 ea.	Euonymu	s Manhattan, 1/2 to 1 ft	39 ea.	6 Bird Foot Violet, BI 6 Trilliums, Mixed Co	ue 1.29
White Flowering Dogwood, 4-6 ft 1.49 ea. Pink Flowering Dogwood, f ft 1.29 ea.	Amur Corkiree, 1 to 2 ft	Dwarf Winesap Apple, 4 to 5 ft Dwarf Early McIntosh Apple, 2-3 i	3.98 ea.	Euonymu	s Pulchellas, 1/2 to 1 ft s Dupont, 1/2 to 1 ft	, .59 ea, 39 ea	6 Blue Bells	
Pink Flowering Dogwood, 2 ft 1.98 ea.	Black Locusi, 2 to 3 ft	Dwarf Early McIntosh Apple, 4-S	ft. 3.98 ea.	*White P	ine, 1 ft	20.42	6 Maiden Hair Fern	
Pink Flowering Dogwood, 3 to S It 3.98 ea.	*Little Leaf Cucumber, 2 to 3 ft	Dwarf Jonathan Apple, 2 to 3 ft	2.49 ea.	Austrian	Pine, 1/2 to 1 ft	29 ea.	8 Hayscented Fern 10 Christmas Fern	1.20
Golden Raintree, 1 to 2 ft	FRUIT TREES. 4 6 V 6 LI	Dwarf Jonathan Apple, 4 to S ft Dwarf Lodi Apple, 2 to 3 tt	3.90 ea.	Scotch P	ine, 3 to 5 inch		4 Cinnamon Fern	t.29
Golden Chain Tree, 1 to 2 ft 98 ea	FRUIT TREES—1 or 2 Years Old	Dwarf Lodi Apple, 4 to S It	3.90 ea.	Western	Yellow Pine, 3 to 5 inch	, .19 ea.	3 Royal Fern	1.20
Smoke Tree, 1 to 2 ft	Belle of Georgia Peach, 1 to 2 ft \$.59 ea.	Dwarf Cortland Apple, 2 to 3 ft	2.49 ea.		ruce, 1/2 to 1 ft		6 White Violets 6 Hepatico, Mixed Col	
Purple Leaf Plum, 1 to 2 ft	Belle of Georgia Peach, 2 to 3 ft,98 ea. Belle of Georgia Peach, 3 to 5 ft, 1.29 ea.	Dwarf Corfland Apple, 4 to S ft Dwarf Northern Spy Apple, 2-3 ft		Douglas -	Fir, 1/2 to 1 ft	49 ea.	4 Solomon Seal, Whit	e 1.29
Purple Leaf Plum, 4 to 6 ft 1.98 ea.	Elberia Peach, 1 to 2 tt	Dwarf Northern Spy Apple, 4-5 It	. 3.98 ea.	Cleyera J	aponica, 1/2 to 1 lt	49 ea.	3 Trailing Arbutus, P	ink1.29
flowering Peach—Red or Pink, 1 to 2 ft59 ea.—2½ to 4 ft5e ea.	Elberta Peach, 2 to 3 ft	Dwarf Yellow Transparent Apple, 2 Dwarf Yellow Transparent Apple, 4	-3 2.49 ea.	Thorny C	Fruitlandi, ½ to 1 ft	49 ea.	4 Sweet Williams, Pir 4 Slar Grass, White	nk
Peppermint Flow, Peach, 21/2-4 ft1.t9 ea.	Elberta Peach, 3 to 5 ft 1.29 ea. J. H. Hale Peach, 1 to 2 ft	Dwart Montmorency Cherry, 2-3 t	ft. 2.49 ea.	Hetzi Jun	uper, 1/2 to 1 ft	59 ea.	4 Golden Seal, White	1.29
Dbl. Pink Flowering Cherry, 3-S ft . 4.49 ea.	J. H. Hale Peach, 2 to 3 ft98 ea.	Dwarf North Star Cherry, 2-3 ft.	2.49 ea.	Sargent 1	Jumper, 1/2 to 1 ft.	\$9 ea.	6 May Apple, White 6 Cardinal Flower, Re	1.20
Flowering Crab—Red or Pink, 2 to 3 ft. 1.19 ea.—4 to 6 ft1.90 ea.	J. H. Hale Peach, 3 to S ft 1.29 ea. Hale Haven Peach, 1 to 2 ff	Dwarf Bartlett Pear, 2 to 3 ft Dwarf Kieller Pear, 2 to 3 ft	2.49 ea.	Yupon Hr	niper, 1/2 to 1 ft	, .59 ea. 49 ea	S Serviner Flower, Ri	.w
Chinese Red Bud, 1 to 2 ft	Hale Haven Peach, 2 to 3 ft90 ea.	Dwarf Burbank Plum, 2 to 3 ft	2.98 ea.	Mahonia	Beali, 3 to 5 inch	49 ea.	FLORIBUNO	A ROSES-
*Tree of Heaven, 3 to S tt	Hale Haven Peach, 3 to S ft1.29 ea.			Gray Car	pet Ground Cover, 3-S inch , Ground Cover, 3 to 5 inch ,	98 ea.	2 Year Fie	
Magnolia Soulangeana, 1 to 2	Dixie Red Peach, 1 to 2 ft	VINES—1 or 2 Years 0	IId	Dine Kug	, Ground Cover, 3 to 3 IACA .			
Weeping Peach—Red or Pink, 1 ft	Dixie Red Peach, 3 to 5 ft1.29 ea.	Red Scarlet Honeysuckle, 1 ft	\$.39 ea.		BERRY PLANTS, ETC		Floradora, Orange Red Pinocchio, Red	
Weeping Peach, Red or Pink, 2½-4 ft	Golden Jubilee Peach, 1 to 2 ft59 ea.	Wisterla-Purple, 12 to 1 ft	39 ea.		1 or 2 Years Old		Goldilocks, Yellow	
White Flowering Peach, 21/2 to 4 ft 38 ea.	Golden Jubilee Peach, 2 to 3 ft	Bittersweet, 1 ft		Black Ra	spherry, ½ to 1 ft	S.29 ea	Summer Snow, White . Pinocchio, Pink	
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Why You Should Enter the Creative Writing Division of Teen Talent

By William A. Reid

The editor of a small daily newspaper lived at a boarding-house. As he departed for the office one morning, he remarked to the landlady, "Looks as

though there's going to be a lot of rain this summer."

"I don't think so," replied the woman. "I think we're going to have a long dry spell." Upon arriving at his office, the editor wrote an editorial, stating that it appeared likely there would be a great deal of rainfall that summer. As the editor arrived home that evening, his landlady met him at the door. "Guess I was wrong," she said. "The paper says we're going to have a wet summer."

This story emphasizes the power of the printed page. It shows how one person can sway the thinking of one or thousands of people (thus, an implication for Church of God young people). The new Creative Writing Division of Teen Talent provides an opportunity for Christian young people to influence others for Jesus Christ through the written word.

God has placed a great emphasis upon writing. He inspired Moses to begin a book of His dealings with man from the creation. He further inspired the prophets to write of His continuing dealings with man. He inspired the apostles to record the life of Jesus Christ. And finally, He inspired John the Revelator on the Isle of Patmos to prophesy of His future dealings with man.

He still places emphasis on the written word today. He has preserved for us His plan for man in the form of the Holy Bible. This is His revelation to man for man's salvation.

Even though we have the Bible, we still need those that are willing to give of their time and talents to write Christian literature. Thousands of books are published each year. Pornographic literature has flooded the newsstands with its message. It is high time that the Christian writer become prolific and flood these same newsstands with stories and accounts of the deeds and miracles of Jesus Christ. To the challenge of this day, Church of God young people will respond.

This year's Tecn Talent compe-

tition has been expanded to provide an opportunity for you to use your writing skills. The Creative Writing Division of Teen Talent is designed to recognize Church of God young people who display talent, skill, and accomplishment in imaginative composition and to encourage them to utilize their ability in written communication for the purpose of Christian witness.

There are four categories in the Teen Talent Creative Writing Division: (1) short stories, (2) articles and essays (nonfiction), (3) plays and skits (fiction and nonfiction), and (4) poetry (rhymed or unrhymed). These categories are designed to provide the Christian young person with area for broad creativity.

A participant may submit an entry in two categories. On the state level he can be awarded first place in both categories, but on the national level he is eligible for first place in only one category. A contestant must be a teen-ager during the total competition. His entry must be his own original, unpublished work; and it must have a religious theme, either explicit or implied. Also, it must have been written between September 1, 1973, and March 1, 1974.

Can you imagine the joy of winning first place at the state level and then traveling to the General Assembly in Dallas. Texas, for the national competition? It is altogether possible, for you could be the winner!

But as the Chinese proverb says, "A journey of a thousand miles begins with the first step." And so it is with writing. The first essay or short story begins with those first words. So, let's get to it!+

About the Author

William serves Maryland, Delaware, and D.C., as director of youth and Christian education.

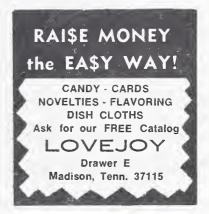






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From as far back as I can remember I have always had the material things (and also love) that was needed to make a happy life. My life was very content because I always had much more than the rest of my friends ever dreamed of having. My father owned a grocery store, which was good-sized (considering our town was very small); and it provided a very good income.

At the age of fourteen I found out what effects alcohol could have on a person, and by the age of sixteen I could drink like any grown man. At the age of fifteen I became associated with drugs. As far as I know I was the second person in the county ever to take LSD or any other kind of drug. Later on, smoking marijuana became my favorite pastime. Hashish, a derivative of marijuana, became the most precious thing I thought I could ever own.

During this time my attitude changed completely: from a very happy person full of love I developed into a lonesome, hateful, and corrupt youth. I turned my back on the whole world, hating it and everyone in it. My anger became uncontrollable, and in school my grades dropped considerably. All my friends left me alone because of fear: they could not understand my long hair, Indian moccasins, dirty bell-bottom jeans, and old torn shirts for school dress.

After a couple of years—at about the age of seventeen—I saw that the devil had painted a very deceiving picture of the drug or hippie scene. Instead of turning to God for the answer to my problems, however, I listened to the devil again. I went to see a fortune-teller, and she gave me a surefire plan that would fix everything. All I had to do for salvation was to give her a little money, to believe what she had to say, and to cut my hair.

A few months later the devil

had put me right back in the same boat I had been in before. Little did I know that this time Satan had made a bigger hole in the bottom than before. I graduated from high school and went on to college, still using drugs, but not at a heavy paee. The third quarter in eollege was my fatal one. My drug abuse was rapidly picking up, and I quit school to get a job so that I could keep my drug supply sufficient.

The very week in June, 1972, that I turned nineteen marked the beginning of my boat going underwater. I had all the money I needed to buy drugs, and that's exactly what I did. Seven days a week I was stoned out of my mind, using marijuana most of the time, but not leaving other drugs alone by any means. My consumption list of drugs—eonsisting of barbiturates, heroin, LSD, eocaine, marijuana, MDA, mesealine, psilocybin, speed, THC, hashish, and alcohol—is pretty long. Yes, I was where Satan wanted me all the time: underwater, with a weight tied around my neck.

All the devil had to do was to wait just a little longer for my breath to give out, and he would have my soul in hell for eternity. The sad part about it all is the fact that I was so unaware of my damnation until God put me under conviction. Then it seemed just like a life preserver was thrown out for me to latch onto. It was my decision at the almost fatal point whether to drown and be lost in hell, or to be pulled in by the love of God and be saved, with eternal life in heaven being my reward. It was not until that moment that I realized where my life's journey had taken me. So I latehed onto the life preserver, which is the love of God, and was saved.

When God saved me, I became a new person. I eut my long, stringy hair, which had hung down past my shoulders; threw away my rock-n-roll records; did away with all manners of drugs; and instead of using my mouth for profane words, I now use it to glorify God! All my worldly problems have vanished from my mind because now I am following Jesus. Now my ambition is not to have worldly treasures, but heavenly treasures; to walk the streets of gold where there is no night; and to go where a pure river of water of life, elear as erystal, proceeds out of the throne of God and the Lamb.

I thank God for sending the Reverend Samuel Gunter and his family to Claxton, Georgia, to organize a Church of God. Our church, only a couple of months old, is small in number, but great in spirit. We hope that you will remember us in your heart and your prayers that we may continue to do the will of God in Claxton, Georgia. +

About the Author

Kenny is a member of the Church of God in Claxton, Georgia.

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C.S. Lovett disease? Unfortunately we turn this power against ourselves—and get sick.

Here's a familiar example—WORRY! Worry is a mental process but it produces physical results—ulcers. And there are other terrible things we do with our minds which pervert those great forces to produce arthritis, heart problems and cancer, etc. Ah—but this destruction can be REVERSED! If worry can make you sick, then the opposite of worry can trigger healing. The opposite of worry is—FAITHI

My newest book, JESUS WANTS YOU WELL, shows you how to work with the Lord to marshall the awesome powers of your own body and focus them on a particular illness. It gives you a 4 step PLAN for triggering them BY FAITH. This ½ price offer is our way of introducing you to an arsenal of more than 35 proven tools for those who mean business for Christ!



CHRISTIAN YOUTH IN PERILOUS TIMES

By Sim A. Wilson

I do not know all the what's and why's of young life, but I do know the average young person in this generation has some mighty big problems facing him.

This is a frightening age, a decade of demons, terrible times, and dangerous days. Real Christian youth must stand up and be counted—for Truth, for right, for Christ!

We would do well to take heed to Paul's classic advice to youth, which is relevant to any age: "Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity" (1 Timothy 4:12). "Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart" (2 Timothy 2:22). This is sound advice and a clear command to young persons who are caught in the cesspool of moral degeneration such as our times indicate.

Here Paul offers three safeguards to youth in perilous times: First, Paul warns Timothy not to form despicable ways—"Let no man despise thy youth" (1 Timothy 4:12). The word *despise* is translated "think little of" and "look down on" in other, more modern translations. In other words, Paul was saying, "Give no man an occasion to 'despise,' 'look down on,' or 'think little of' you because you are young."

Youth is a formidable agc. At this time, young people are forming habits that will last a lifetime. Youth has great influence and therefore great responsibility. It is your responsibility not to merit the despite of others by careless deeds. It is easy in such desperate times to form despicable ways. We have no trouble finding people, even church members, who have a despicable personality, despicable disposition, despicable temperament, and despicable ways.

And how does one become despicable? To start with, be intolerant; after all, you are right and everyone else is wrong; so insist on having your own way. Then, be indignant. Carry your feelings on your sleeve and show extreme sensitiveness. Be mad, mean, wrathful, belligerent, quarrelsome, and contentious in all things. Finally, be intractable; don't let anyone tell you what to do. You know what is best for you, and no one has a right to

govern, direct, or teach you anything; so be stubborn and obstinate. I guarantee that if you are possessed with these three qualities you will have despicable ways.

Some people, instead of being humbly grateful, are grumbly hateful. A Christian should be pleasant, pleasing, and Christlike. The Scriptures say that we should "be . . . kind, tenderhearted, forgiving" (Ephesians 4:32); "[have] compassion . . . love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous" (1 Peter 3:8); and "be kindly affectioned" (Romans 12:10).

All the world is a camera, so look and be pleasant, please. You are projecting an image of yourself that you will have to live with the remainder of your life.

For Christian living as an antidote to despicable ways, I offer the following rules:

At home, be kind.
In business, be honest.
In society, be courteous.
At work, be thorough.
In play, be fair.
To the fortunate, offer eongratulations.

To the weak, offer help.





Toward the wicked, resist evil.

Toward the penitent, be forgiving.

Toward God, be reverent, loving, and obedient.

Second, Paul warns Timothy not to fail to be a Christian example—"Be thou an example of the believers" (1 Timothy 4:12). Youthfulness does not exempt us from Christian living nor Christian service. (See Proverbs 20:11.) As a matter of fact, no Christian is exempt from holy living: "Follow . . . holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord" (Hebrews 12:14). Likewise, Paul exhorted young men in Titus 2:6, 7 to show themselves "in all things . . . a pattern of good works.'

We should note that Paul said, "Be . . . an example of," not "an example to." Christian light was not meant to be used in an attempt to outdazzle one another in indoor religious performances, but to light this sin-darkened world out where the sinners are. Christ said: "Ye are the light of the world. . . . Let your light so shine before men, that they may

see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven" (Matthew 5:14-16).

Our Christian witness may be compared to companies selling products: They show samples which indicate what the entire product is like. We, too, are a sample of what all believers should be. In our everyday life, we are a living sample of our church. A real Christian should want the whole world to be just like him. A Christian example is a person who makes another person homesiek to know God as he does.

The story is told of a blind man who, one dark night, went down a black alley earrying a lighted lantern in his hand. Someone asked him, "Why do you earry that light? It doesn't do you any good."

He thoughtfully replied, "Oh, yes, it does—it keeps other men from stumbling over me!"

Our life is either a lighthouse or a stumbling block. If the Christian does not earry his lantern, and it lit, down the black alleys of life, men will stumble over him into everlasting night, where there will be darkness forever. So pray earnestly "that ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a erooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world; Holding forth the word of life" (Philippians 2:15, 16).

Third, Paul warns Timothy not to fall into youthful perils—
"Flee also youthful lusts" (2 Timothy 2:22). Or, as *The Living Bible* says, "Run from anything that gives you the evil thoughts that young men often have."

Paul seemed to recognize that youth face special problems which older persons do not. Youth are susceptible to special trials because of their immaturity, inexperience, and gullibility. We must never forget that Satan wants youth not only because they have a heart to corrupt, but also because they have a life to control.

There are certain philosophies and concepts at which you cannot afford to hesitate or halt. It is a fatal place. Hundreds have perished at this same point before you. Watch that your time does not come next. Beware of them and run for your life!†

About the Author

Sim pastors the South Boston, Virginia, Church of God.

KEEP YOURSELF PURE

A three-word sentence written to a youth and tucked away in an old Book needs to be dusted off and given prominence. The youth was named Timothy; the book is the Bible; and the sentence reads, "Keep thyself pure" (1 Timothy 5:22).

In these days of permissiveness when many youths are bent on going their own way and doing their own thing, the Bible thunders, "Keep yourself pure." Though God demands purity, a clean, pure youth is a rarity. A holy young person in today's sinful surroundings glistens like a fresh raindrop near a cesspool. Youthful followers of our Lord must keep themselves pure in conversation, association, dedication, and expectation.

Purity of word. Clean language has taken a nose dive in today's society. Words which were taboo a few months ago have become commonplace with some people. Though television may use certain offensive terms frequently, foul language has no place in the speech of a believing youth. When Paul, inspired by the Holy Ghost, said, "Whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus" (Colossians 3:17), he surely meant for us to

have clean talk as well as good actions.

There will be no place in our specch for words which bring shame to Christ if the "word of Christ dwell in you richly" (Colossians 3:16). Jesus said, "Every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment. For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned" (Matthew 12:36, 37). May God give us holiness of speech.

Purity of association. God intends for us to rub shoulders daily with our peers of the same sex as well as the opposite sex. A Christian youth must be a sociable person, mixing and communicating with other people. It goes without saying that a young person cannot be a witness for his Lord if he closes himself in a room.

On the other hand, he must keep himself pure in his associations. In a world of homosexuality, lesbianism, and premarital sex, today's Christian youth must be certain that he is untainted with these gross sins. Of course, young people can associate with the opposite sex without committing sexual sins. Jesus, while assuming

that we would function in the main stream of life, sternly warned, "Whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart" (Matthew 5:28).

Purity of dedication. Of course, our purity of speech and association hinges upon our personal holiness. A life totally committed to Christ has no place for sin. Such a life is on a different plane. Paul wrote, "Unto the pure all things are pure: but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure; but even their mind and conscience is defiled" (Titus 1:15).

Purity of expectation. The Lord is coming back, and we cannot allow our outlook to become so earthbound that we forget the fact. Daily anticipation of Christ's return moves us toward God. John said, "When he shall appear . . . we shall see him as he is. And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himsef, even as he is pure" (1 John 3:2, 3).

Therefore, in this age of foul talk, sensual living, lack of dedication, and denial of the Rapture, God insists that we be holy. His rule of conduct stands, and that rule reads: "Keep thyself pure." +

I heard the news of Doug's aecident in late evening, having that day returned from vacation.

It had rained only enough to slick the roads. Doug headed home over Cherry Street bypass, his o new Five-fifty Suzuki humming. Suddenly, just before him loomed a truck—stopped in the right lane and readying for a left turn! No signal lights!

Instinctively, Doug's foot pressed the brake. All was sponginess, and he knew the sliding back wheel would never stop him in time. He could not go left; the truck was turning. He could not go right; a ditch line beckoned. So he slid the cycle eounterclockwise, lifting his left leg lest it be crushed, and watched as the truck's bumper came crunching into his two-wheeler and into his right thigh.

It was a trailer hitch, the doctor said, which broke the bone and later made necessary an opera-

tion and a splint pin.

My first reaction was, Thank God, Dong's going to be all right! My second thought was of his mother. What agony she must be suffering! After all, only days before she had come to me with a question: a question all parents must ask themselves at some time or other.

"Brother Stone, did I do right in permitting my son to purchase a motorcycle? Some of my friends think not. They say motorcycles are dangerous and that if something should happen to Douglas, I'd never get over it. Somehow I've always felt like God would look after my boys. I can't be with them all the time myself, and there are car accidents as well as motorcycle."

I had agreed with her. Somewhere, there had to be a meeting place between responsibility and trust in God. Surely God would look out for Doug!

Now this! First I phoned. Then I visited Doug. He lay flat

of his back, leg in traction, a metal pin through the main bone just above the ankle. The doctor hoped to pull the bone back into place without surgery.

Doug's spirits were good. He smiled. He joined me in prayer. He admitted that he had rededicated himself to the Lord.

"You may find me here in this hospital again, Brother Stone;

but you'll never find me here as he result of a motorcycle aeei-

🐧 grinned at Doug and thought mement. His mother stood near the foot of the bed. There was the question again—the same dilomina.

Yell now, Douglas, I understand how you feel. That's a natural reaction. If you'd fallen off the back porch and broken that leg, I dare say you'd be yowing to stay away from back porehes, wouldn't vou?"

"Yeah. I guess so."

"Whether you ever ride that motorcycle again or not will be a decision vou'll make. Should you decide to ride, you'll certainly ride with more care. Your lesson has been a hard one, as are many of life's lessons; but it's been good if God has taught you to trust and rely on Him. Now, let's just pray that the operation will succeed and that your leg will heal completely."

Douglas Nester is getting along fine now. The leg is nearly well, and his attitude is excellent. He is wiser, but not fearful. Such

is living.

Doug's mother, too, has survived. She's grateful to God for His mercy, and she realizes that she still must trust God for grace and protection. What other course is there?

Not often is our faith so quickly or brutally put to the test; but each of us, as parents, must draw the line. As our children grow and as they of necessity demand more and more freedom to live their own lives and to go their own way, may God grant us wisdom to know when and where the line of responsibility is drawn. At the same time, may He give us confident trust. Otherwise, our sanity is at stake. 4

About the Author

Living in Bluefield, Virginia, with his wife and two sons, Hoyt pastors the Church of God there.

Do You Ever Ask Yourself the Following Questions:

- How can I reach my greatest potential and become all that God wants me to be?
- Is there a way I can really know God's plan for my life?
- How can I be led of the Spirit?
- Am I really invincible?

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by Dr. Paul L. Walker

Dr. Walker has served as pastor of the Mount Paran Church of God in Atlanta, Georgia, since 1960. He holds the Ph.D. degree in counseling from Georgia State University and has been an active participant in the Atlanta Counseling Center in conjunction with his pastoral ministry. In addition to an international ministry of counseling, preaching, and writing, he has been a concerned civic leader in Atlanta. In this capacity he was chosen as one of the five outstanding young men in the city of Atlanta by the Atlanta Junior Chamber of Commerce and has been involved as a consultant and counselor in many different community improvement programs. With this background of experience, his pulpit ministry displays the unique exposition of scriptural truths appropriated into dynamic principles of living as illustrated in this sermon series YOU ARE INCOMPARABLE.

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FROM THE DESK OF THE EDITOR



YVE4

A Special Issue

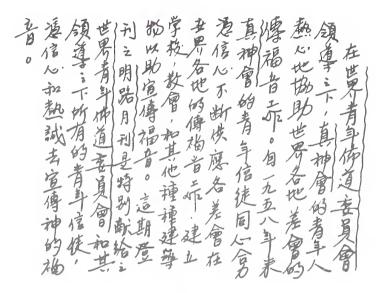
Youth World Evangelism Appeal

A Ministry of Church of God Youth



February, 1974 Volume 45, No. 2

CHINESE



FRENCH

Par l'action du mouvement YWEA, les jeunes gens dans l'Église de Dieu se sont promis d'aider les missionnaires à transmettre leur message où le besoin se fait sentir. Depuis 1958 les jeunes gens partout dans l'Église de Dieu se sont rassemblés sous l'égide de la foi et de l'action pour pourvoir les missionnaires des objets d'équipement nécessaires et autres approvisionnements et pour faire construire des églises, des instituts, et d'autres édifices, surtout à l'étranger. Cette édition special du Sentier Illuminé est dédié au mouvement YWEA et aux jeunes gens qui ont endossé la responsabilité de faire partager le témoignage de Jésus-Christ partout et avec tout le monde.



Anne Walston, Research Ron Hood, Art Director Ledarral Brumley, Artist H. Bernard Dixon, Circulation Manager O. W. Polen, Editor in Chief F. W. Goff, Publisher

ENGLISH

Through Youth World Evangelism Appeal Church of God young people are committed to the task of helping keep the message and the missionary where the need is. Since 1958 young people throughout the Church of God have joined together in faith and action to supply missionaries with needed equipment and supplies, and to build churches, schools, and multipurposed buildings around the world. This special issue of the LIGHTED PATHWAY is dedicated to the mission of YWEA and to the young people who are involved in the challenge of sharing Christ with the world.

GERMAN

Durch den Jugend Weltevangelisations Aufruf hat sich die Jugend der Gemeinde Gottes zu der Aufgabe verpflichtet die Evangeliumsbotschaft und Missionare zu unterstützen wo eine Not ist. Seit 1958 hat sich die Jugend der Gemeinde Gottes im Glauben und in der Tat zusammengeschlossen und hat Missionare unterstützt mit notwendiger Ausrüstung und Material und sie hat geholfen Gemeindesäale, Schulen und Gebäude für vielfache Zwecke rundum die Welt zu bauen. Diese Sonderausgabe des LIGHTED PATHWAY ist dem JWA gewidmet und den jungen Leuten die den Auftrag Christus der Welt zu verkünden angenommen haben.

SPANISH

Los jovenes de la Iglesia de Dios a traves de la Apelación a la Juventud para el Evangelismo Mundial (YWEA) se han entregado a la tarea de ayudar a conservar el mensaje y al misionero donde hay necesidad. Desde 1958 los jovenes de toda la Iglesia de Dios se han unido en fé y acción en la construcción -alrededor del mundo- de templos, escuelas, y edificios para usos multiples; así como en suplir a los misioneros con el equipo y los materiales necesitados. Este número especial de la SENDA ILUMINADA es dedicado a la misión de YWEA y a los jovenes que están participando del reto de compartir el mensaje de Cristo con el mundo.

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"GO into all the world with the GOOD NEWS"- Jesus



The administrative personnel of the General Youth and Christian Education Department study the geographical location of the 1974 YWEA project. Pointing out the site in Rudersburg, West Germany, is Cecil R. Guiles, general director, while Floyd D. Carey, assistant director (standing) looks on. Seated (right) are Lamar Vest, administrative assistant, and Lonzo Kirkland, youth activities coordinator.

A Plan for Obedience

Sixteen years ago the Youth and Christian Education Department of the Church of God originated the Youth World Evangelism Appeal (YWEA). Designed to involve youth in missions, the program's effectiveness quickly spread throughout the church, giving many youths a burden for other lands.

The administrative personnel of the General Youth and Christian Education Department (shown above) prayerfully ponder the selection of each annual YWEA project. Working in conjunction with the World Missions Department and the General Youth and Christian Education Board, they make decisions concerning the site of each annual project.

Though the youth of the church raise many thousands of dollars each year, fund-raising is not the only purpose of YWEA. Youths are also trained in the importance of God's work in various countries of the universe. They become acquainted with spiritual and material needs throughout the world; and by rallying to those needs, the young people help fulfill the Divine Commission. Next to the ministry of youth camps, many feel that YWEA is most important to the youth of

the church.

The personnel of the General Youth and Christian Education Department work faithfully in planning and promoting YWEA year after year. They design and produce all of the materials used to acquaint the youth of the church with the annual project. Finally, as editor, I wish to thank that entire department for the arduous work it has done in gathering materials and photographs for this special Youth World Evangelism Appeal issue of the *Lighted Pathway*.

-Clyne W. Buxton, Editor

Youth World Ewi A Ministry of C

It has been said over and over again—both by youth and youth leaders—"Young people want involvement." Unfortunately, in too many instances, there has been more talk than action in providing opportunities for youth involvement. The Church of God is ever in search of ways to involve youth in the total ministry of the church.

Youth World Evangelism Appeal (YWEA) was created to give youth an opportunity to share in the missionary program of the Church of God. What has happened around the world, as a result of youth involvement, stands as a memorial to the dedication and loyalty of Church of God youth who will get involved when opportunities are provided.

The nucleus of the YWEA emphasis is missionary education and involvement. Each year the young people of the Church of God are challenged to join hands and hearts to consider the Great Commission and to support a project to advance the cause of Christ in the world. As young people understand the nature of

the commission of Christ and actively participate in it, they experience an extra measure of His power and reflect more fully His likeness in their lives.

The first Youth World Evangelism Appeal projects were engineered to purchase bicycles, donkeys, automobile tires, books, gospel tracts, and supplies for missionaries and native workers. YWEA has today become a mighty force, committed to the task of helping to keep the message and the missionary where the need is. This special Lighted Pathway issue is dedicated to the ministry of Youth World Evangelism Appeal and to Church of God youth who care enough to get involved in the mission of helping save our world.

1961 Brasilia, Brazil

On September 19, 1956, the president of Brazil signed into law an order transferring the capital of that country from Rio de Janeiro to Brasilia. The date for moving the government to the new city was later set at April 21, 1960. This capsule history of Brasilia portrays the breathtaking swiftness of the building of a great city and the transferal of one of the important world capitals.

As the storybook city of Brasilia began mushrooming in the interior of Brazil, Church of God youth were challenged to accept the first nationwide YWEA project. The Brazilian government had given the church a choice piece of property, with the understanding that a church would be built in a certain allotted time and in keeping with certain cost specifications. The efforts of Church of God Youth provided the funds to make it possible for the World Missions Department to take advantage of this opportunity. Today a beautiful, thriving church stands on that property as a witness to millions of unreached Brazilians and as a testimony to the faithfulness of Church of God youth.

1962 Tokyo, Japan

This project concentrated on building a church and youth center in the world's largest city— Tokyo, Japan. The youth center has offered classes in English to eager Japanese students wanting to increase their proficiency in

gelism Appeal

ch of God Youth

the country's seeond language—thereby exposing seores of young people to the church. The Tokyo youth eenter has developed into a strong evangelistic ehurch with a eoncentration on ministering to youth. The ehurch—which has already had to enlarge its physical plant since the initial YWEA building was eompleted—fully supports its pastor financially, pays its own bills, and recently raised in excess of \$3,000 for an evangelistic thrust.

Aeeording to Lovell R. Carey, superintendent of the Far East, worship in Tokyo is very similar to worship in the United States. He says, "Young people are very enthusiastic and energetic. They are constantly singing songs and raising their hands in praise."

Pictures: 1—Brasilia; 2—Tokyo; 3— Tokyo Youth Center Sunday School







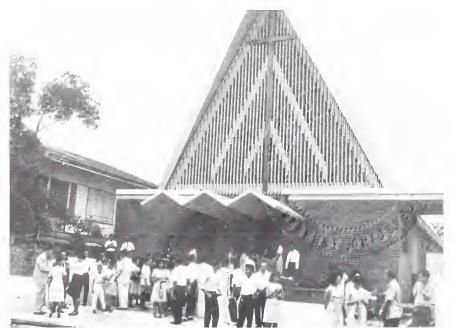
1963—Bombay, India

The Bombay, India, YWEA building, like most other YWEA projects, is multipurposed in design. It provides a splendid auditorium for teaching and worship. Elsewhere in the building are facilities for youth activities, and a library and reading room. The building also houses a local church; national offices for all of northern India; and living quarters for the overseer, evangelism director, and pastor. The local congregation which meets here has developed into a strong church, both in attendance and finance.

The Bombay YWEA Center has become the focal point for development of our church work in all of northern India. Presently, plans are being considered for developing a Bible school which will also use the YWEA facilities.



The Bombay YWEA Center has become the focal point for the development of the work of the Church of God in northern India.

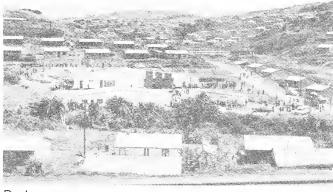


1964 Manila, Philippines

The Manila YWEA church has developed into one of our finest churches in the Far East. In fact, it has become one of our strongest churches on the mission field, outside of the West Indies and Central America. The church was pastored for several years by

Lovell R. Cary, superintendent of the Far East, but is now being pastored by a native Filipino. This fully self-supporting church last year gave over \$1,300 to missions. Their annual income in tithes and offerings averages over \$6,000.

Before the youth of the Church of God accepted the challenge of raising funds to build this church, there had never been a Church of God in the city of Manila. The church now averages around two hundred in Sunday school. Many of those who have united with the Church of God have been converted from Catholicism.



Durban



Sonora, Mexico

1965 Durban, South Africa

Jerusalema Umlazi, a church home for thousands of previously churchless Zulu believers, was dedicated on March 19, 1966, only seven months after the completion of the 1965 YWEA drive. The complex consists of a beautiful tabernacle, which will seat over twelve hundred people; a combination parsonage and meeting hall; a building which houses offices and a garage; and an outdoor baptistery, which is centrally located between the three buildings. The tabernacle is already too small to accommodate

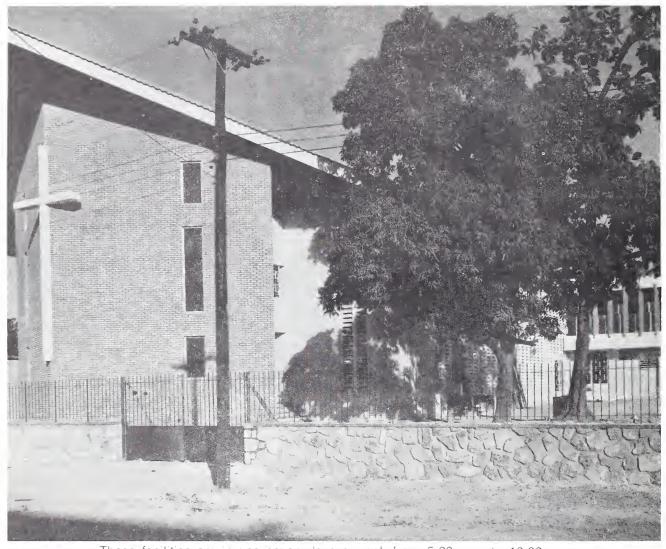
the large crowds which regularly attend local church services.

Besides being used by the local church, the facilities are also used for church conventions and by the Bantu people for many civic activities. "Hardly a day passes," says Executive Missions Secretary T. L. Forester, "when these facilities are not being used for the glory of God."

1966—Hermosillo, Sonora, Mexico

The 1966 project was the Northwest Mexico Bible School, which is one of our finest buildings in Mexico. The school, staffed with some of our most qualified instructors, is the only school in Mexico with a three-year training program. The best students from our other schools in Mexico attended Northwest Mexico Bible School for the third year, which is known as a special session year.

The school facilities are used for many other events and activities—such as pastors' retreats, special youth meetings, and other church-related activities. Recently, summer courses for those who work with children were instituted. The effects of this YWEA project have been far-reaching.



These facilities are in use seven days a week from 5:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

1967—Port-au-Prince, Haiti

Today, the YWFA Port-au-Prince Church of God is the largest Protestant church in the Republic of Haiti. The church has over two thousand members, averages approximately twentytwo hundred in Sunday school attendance, and is filled to capacity every Sunday night. The Reverend T. R. Morse, former overseer of the West Indies and present administrative assistant to the World Missions Department, states, "This is the most utilized church I know of anywhere."

Seven days a week, from 5 a.m. until 10 p.m., these facilities are being used for God's glory. The church maintains a school which goes through advanced grades.

There are youth-oriented special schools, operated by the Haitian government, which also use the church facilities. These special schools, which provide training for many occupational opportunities, have introduced many young people to the Church of God and have resulted in their being led to Christ.

1968—Djakarta, Indonesia

1969—Nassau, Bahamas



Bethel Bible Seminary



Evans-Barr Convention Center and Bible School



First year students pose for group picture in front of center.

One World Pentecostal leader made the following statement about Bethel Bible Seminary, the 1968 YWEA project: "The seminary is likely the most significant contribution ever made to Pentecost in the Far East."

This magnificent four-floor structure provides executive offices for the Bethel Full Gospel Church of God, offices for the administration of the seminary, classrooms, living quarters for missionaries and teachers, a very large auditorium, and facilities for a radio station. Presently, there are three schools in operation which utilize the facilities: elementary, high school, and Bible seminary.

Executive Missions Secretary T. L. Forester has said, "The Bethel Bible Seminary is the key to keeping our work in Indonesia moving forward."

The Evans-Barr Memorial Bible School, named after the first Church of God missionaries, R. M. Evans and Edmond S. Barr, was the YWEA project for 1969. The complex consists of a convention tabernacle, a Bible school, a local church with 150 adherents, and administrative offices for the Church of God in the Bahama Islands. The convention tabernacle is used for the Bahama Islands' church conferences, ministers' meetings, and special youth services. It is the largest Protestant church auditorium in the Bahamas.

The primary function of the Evans-Barr Memorial Bible School is to train young Bahamians for the work of the ministry, that they may return to their own towns and villages with the glorious message of Jesus and His love.

1970 Gallup, New Mexico

The Church of God presently has over fifty missionaries, workers, and pastors among the American Indians, with more than twenty-five churches, missions, and preaching stations. The Indian Bible Institute, located on a large tract of land on Interstate 40 and Highway 66 near Gallup, New Mexico, the Indian capital of the world, became a

reality as the results of the 1970 YWEA project. Operated by the Evangelism and Home Missions Department, the institute offers to American Indians training in the Bible, Bible-related subjects, music, and Christian education.

The cost for students attending the Church of God Indian Bible Institute is \$200 a semester, including room, board, and tuition. The Evangelism and Home Missions Department endeavors to find financial support for worthy youths wishing to attend. The institute affords a good practical foundation for service and for a future exposure to advanced education.



Superintendent's home and administrative offices

Indian Bible School—classrooms and dormitories

Latin America Bible School complex and a group of students during a free recreational period.



1972—Pearl Harbor

Pearl Harbor is one of the largest and most strategic military installations in the world. Thousands of military personnel and their dependents live and work in this area. Many of these men and their families are spiritually displaced. They need a place to find spiritual strength and Christian fellowship. The Church of God, through our Servicemen's Department and YWEA, is now in the process of providing such a center—the first of its kind in Hawaii. Construction for the Pearl Harbor YWEA servicemen's center is already underway, with the dedication date set for June 2, 1974.

The Pearl Harbor servicemen's church, although forced to utilize rented facilities since its organization in 1967, has grown rapidly. The new Pearl Harbor YWEA servicemen's center will not be just another church or social facility. It will be dynamic and different and will offer a combination of programs that will change lives for Christ.

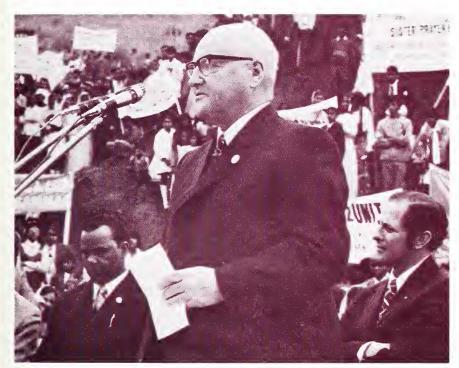
1971—Balboa, Canal Zone, Panama

The Latin America Bible Seminary, now in its second year of operation, will graduate its first class in May of 1974.

The seminary offers a three-year advanced program of biblical, theological, and Christian education to prepare national ministers for leadership roles as teachers, administrators, pastors, and church leaders. Students from our other Bible schools in Latin America attend this institution for advanced training. Long-range goals for the seminary foresee its operating at the academic level of Lee College, offering baccalaureate degrees in religious studies.

South African Indian Bible School

By J. F. Rowlands



At the laying of the foundation stone, Pastor J. F. Rowlands outlines the purpose for which the Bible school is being built to a group of over 5,000 persons.

Then the chief of the fathers and princes of the tribes of Israel, and the captains of thousands and of hundreds, with the rulers of the king's work, offered willingly, And gave for the service of the house of God . . . gold . . . silver . . . brass . . . iron Then the people rejoiced, for that they offered willingly, because with perfect heart they offered willingly to the Lord (1 Chronicles 29:6-9).

Something very similar to the action in the above verses has been happening in Durban, South Africa! With the vision of the proposed new Bible school before them, those who could afford "gold" have given gold; those who only had "silver" have given silver! All, however, have offered willingly—even though the best they could give may have been "brass" or "iron."

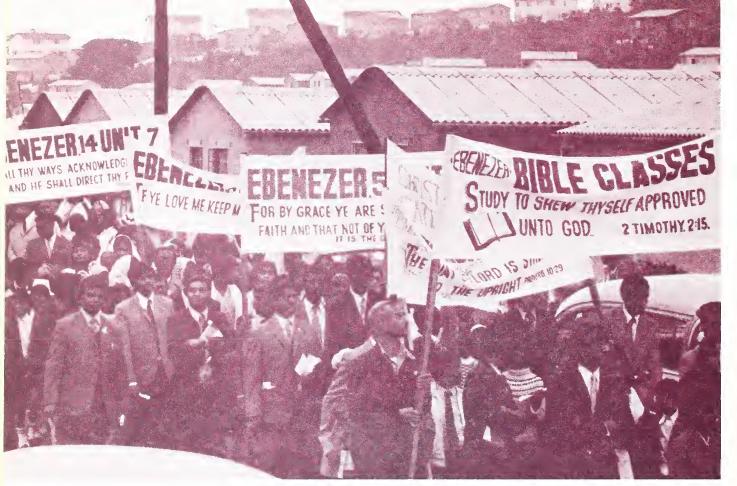
With a vision and faith in God
—believing that if we do our

"little best," He will do His "big best" and that our "little best" plus His "big best" equals all our needs —we started to collect funds to build the Bethesda Bible School (South African Indian Bible School).

Faith promises were made. Some, though living below the breadline, fulfilled their pledges in a miraculous way. Brick-books were printed and distributed among the members. These were sold, and several thousand rands were added to the funds. Some who had the means bought merchandise wholesale and sold the items at retail prices, and all profits were given to the Lord.

Some churches pledged a day's wages every month. Others doubled their tithe—the first tithe was given to the "storehouse" (Malachi 3:10) and the second to the Bible school project. A Christian playwright produced a special Indian religious drama which brought in a substantial amount.

When the news spread that the 1973 YWEA project was to be the South African Indian Bible School, everyone was inspired and began to double his efforts. "First month's wages" came in and gifts "in answer to prayer" began to flow! Some sent the equivalent of what they would have spent on calling a doctor—because they prayed and the Lord healed them!



A mile and a half procession interspersed with over eighty banners and musical floats marched through the Chatsworth District toward the site of the Bible school for the laying of the foundation-stone ceremony.

Gifts in lieu of birthday presents and gifts instead of wreaths caused the funds to swell. Yes, they offered willingly! Former chain smokers gave, saying, "We had the money to buy the tobacco before we were delivered; now let us invest what we have saved in the Bethesda Bible School." They gave because they loved the Lord! They gave because they were not privileged to attend Bible school themselves! They are now rejoicing that a younger generation will benefit from their giving and will have the privilege to study God's Word!

Some zealous members became part-time salesmen and gave their commissions to hasten the day when students could enter the Bible school and prepare themselves for the front lines in the Lord's army.

A small model of the Bible school buildings was made and left in the church. Those who felt led dropped their gifts through the same kind of opening which was made for the sick of the palsy in Mark 2:4.

An aged Indian sister, frail and knowing that her earthly pilgrimage was drawing to its close, had her fixed deposit transferred to the Bible school account in the Natal Building Society. A Jewish dentist, inspired by Bethesda's testimony and witness, wrote out a three-figure check for the Bible

school building fund.

Over five thousand persons attended the stonelaying ceremony on September 30, 1973, and laid almost R3,000 on the stone at the close of the service—willingly! Everything was given cheerfully and with a smile! Each gift came with a prayer that faith would soon be turned to sight!

To furnish the church and hall with pews, chairs, etc., individuals gave separately. The furniture for the private chapel was donated by a mother and father in memory of a 21-year-old son who was actively engaged in God's service prior to his recent sudden promotion to glory! The sound system was given by one brother in gratitude for the "goodness and mercy" which had followed him all the days of his life (Psalm 23: 6).

Those who were able collected old saeks, bottles, and newspapers and sold them. The proceeds were given for the work of God and for the training of young people in "the faith which was once delivered unto the saints" (Jude 1:3).

The sisters of the church have a special vision of their own. They are working to raise sufficient cash to present a pulpit to the school. Another private endeavor among the Christian confectioners is to make cakes and savory Indian sweetmeats to sell them and to swell the eredit side of the school ledger.

Instead of putting flowers on the graves of loved ones, instead of buying ice cream from every passing cart, and—in some cases—instead of buying Cokes, they quenched their thirst a much cheaper way by drinking water; and all gave their savings to the Bible school project. Yes, they sacrificed—and saerificed willing-ly—beeause it was "unto the Lord" (Romans 14:6-8)!

There have been no big "river" gifts—none could afford any! Ours have been the many little "streams" of income which have built up the accumulation which is now being turned into windows, doors, roofs, and floors!

Hundreds and hundreds of young people have yearned for this day when true Penteeostal training would be available. The past generation was denied this privilege. There is every indication that the young people of today will take full advantage of their opportunities.

The willingness with which money has been given and the many ingenious methods by which it has been raised proves with what joy the whole project has been received in the hearts of the people.

The harvest fields are more than ripe—they are overripe! They are rotting! The need today is greater than it has ever been. False doctrine and fanaticism abound! The crying need of the hour is for men and women to be filled with the power of the Holy Ghost, and to be fully equipped with a thorough knowledge of God's Word. God needs those who will dedicate their all to Him and hasten into the streets and lanes of the city, the highways and hedges of the countryside, to tell everyone, everywhere, that Jesus saves!

After the beautiful building is completed and is opened to the glory of God, something much greater than building a Bible school must receive our urgent and prayerful attention. What is that? It is the fulfilling of the PUR-POSE for which the Bible school has been built: the bringing to pass of the reason why thousands have sacrificed to see the magnificent edifice erected. \downarrow

Over \$215,000.00 Was Raised for This Project.

The building is going up!



Our great God, who has so graciously supplied all of our other needs, will also give us a teaching staff which will make the Bethesda Bible School the Pentecostal training center He desires it to be!

A big thank-you and a bigger "God bless you" to everyone who has so willingly given towards the 1973 YWEA project! Your vision has been achieved and our dreams have come true! Praise God!

1974 WNEA Project EUROPEAN

SOUTH AFRICA MEDINOSIFFO' WEXICO SJUNIA PHILIPPINES LATIN AMERICA CHATTSWORTH, SOUTH AND AJINAM J-PRINCE, HAIT, NAGAL, OY HOT OD NEW WEXTO THE SAMAHAO SPMPHAB UASSA

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1974

Help us help Ourselves European Bible College Project

In economics we are taught that in order to increase our productivity most effectively we need to divert some of our energy expenditure from direct consumption to capital goods; that is, to the building of tools and means whereby we can increase our production of consumer goods and products. To illustrate this principle let us use the example of a man walking to the river each time he wants a drink of water. If he would divert some of the energy that he uses to walk to the river into preparing a container that would hold water, it would, in the long run, satisfy his thirst needs and at the same time conserve time and energy.

The same principle is true regarding the work of winning souls. We can take all of our European preachers and use them as evangelists—who, in turn, use all of their time and energy to preach the gospel to sinners. Many souls will be saved. However, we

By faith these facilities have been purchased to house the European Bible College at a cost of over \$200,000.00.

feel that more souls will be saved in the long run if we will use some of our European preachers as teachers to train new persons who are called into the ministry, even though this does mean that both teachers and students are being partially diverted from being full-time evangelists.

Just having teachers and students, however, will not be sufficient for us to get the most production out of their expenditure of time and energy. They need to have facilities, tools, and equipment; and they need to be provided with learning situations, experiences, and laboratories which will enhance the learning process and speed their development as skilled evangelists. Time is an important factor since we feel that the Lord is coming soon, and there is only a short time left in which to win souls.



The students need a building which will provide facilities for eating, sleeping, studying, and teaching. Good books must be available in the subjects to be studied. Transportation to nearby ehurehes and places for evangelistie outreach must be arranged. Costs of operation must be met.

In Europe we need your help in acquiring these facilities. We have students, teachers, and commitments for some of the cost of operation. But for the European Church of God people to acquire these facilities without your help would mean the channeling of their funds over the next twelve to fifteen years toward just paying for the facilities. But with your help we ean take giant steps forward in one year and ean move into immediate production.

Beeause of our faith in you we have begun. We are now having elasses with students from England, Germany, and Yugoslavia. In the past six weeks we have personally interviewed prospective students in Greece, Yugoslavia, France, Germany, and England. The cry in each eountry is for trained workers. and we have students available who are ready to enter into this training program.

Financially the Europeans are responding to this need. Last week for the 1974 YWEA project I received \$140.24 from three ehurehes in Yugoslavia and \$45.55 from two ehurehes in Greece. In the first two and onehalf months of this fiscal year the European office has received \$2,962.55 in eash and more than \$10,000 in pledges from our European ehureh people on the 1974 YWEA project. Thank the Lord!

Please help us help ourselves in order that we ean move forward rapidly in securing trained evangelists for soulwinning in Europe. + -1. H. Walker, Ir.



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The Youth of Europe Need God!

"It takes youth to win youth."

The spiritual needs of people remain the same from generation to generation, on one side of the Atlantic as on the other: All men everywhere need to be reconciled with God. This need is especially intense among the young people of Europe.

European youth are affluent. Never before in the history of Western Europe have there been so many goods for sale or so much money with which to buy them. Like their elders, the young can and do afford themselves just about anything they desire.

European youth are educated. Enrollment at universities is booming. Teachers are in great demand. Education, European-style, however, still is more concerned with facts than with the reasons behind the facts. Currently a new trend toward permissiveness is coming into conflict with the traditional pressure upon the young to perform and to achieve. To many European young persons their intellect is their god, and their personal knowledge and understanding is the sole determining factor and authority in their search



A group of Church of God youth witnessing in West Germany

for truth.

European youth are also disoriented. While the older generation cozily enjoys the rewards of the new prosperity, young people in increasing numbers are seeking different values. Student strikes at universities, a flourishing subculture, and increasing drug use indicate that Europe's youth are in turmoil. They are confused about the direction they should take in life. Some even speak of a paralysis of hope among the young.

European youth are without God. And this is tragic. Though Europe gave the world much of its Christian heritage, today the need for evangelization is hardly anywhere greater than in the countries of Europe. Church membership declines. Church houses are for sale. To the young, as to much of the population in general, cathedrals and spires are but relics of the past, and the clergyman is just another official of the government. Church structures are admired for their ornateness, if

old, or for their daring architecture, if new. They are rarely attended—at least not by the young. For most young persons God and church are equally irrelevant to the questions and needs of their lives. And so they pattern their lives after secular, this-world goals. Morals often are determined by the convenience of the moment.

Europe has become a totally secular society—sophisticated, proud of its economic achievements, and cocky in its assumption that tomorrow holds even greater promises than today. God is left out of the considerations.

But God, in His sovereign grace, neverthcless, is moving in Europe. The Jesus movement has come to Europe and is leaving a positive mark for God. Believers arc more courageous and ingenious in their witness than they were just several years ago. As young people become disillusioned with contemporary society and their search for truth, some find their way to Christ. And so opportunities for evangelization increase.

Where darkness is dccp, even the tiniest light will be observed. To turn on many such lights for God in the spiritual darkness of Europe is the task of the European Bible College of the Church of God. Already God has given a group of fine students from England, Yugoslavia, and Germany. Each is a potential firebrand for God. Each feels called to service in the harvest field of the Lord. These young men and women have come to the European Bible College because they know that their culture demands that their witness be intelligent and powerful. To win men's hearts they first must reach men's minds.

It takes youth to win youth. Uphold these your peers and brothers and sisters at the European Bible College as they prepare themselves to become missionaries—because Europe needs God!

-Heinrich C. Scherz

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DOES JESUS HEAL TODAY?



S I avet

Like most Christians, I knew instinctively that healing had to be available in Christ. After all, doesn't some sort of healing occur wherever the gospel goes? But I didn't give much thought to it until an illness struck my own body.

The doctor advised me there was no known cure for my problem, that surgery would merely be a last resort. That took me to Jesus in a hurry. If I hadn't paid much attention to His healing power before, I did now. I asked Him to show me His program for healing today.

In the process of teaching me, the Spirit introduced me to the vast healing forces God has on deposit in our bodies. There's enough power there to wipe out any disease—including cancer. That power can be triggered by faith. The Spirit gave me a four step plan for unleashing these forces and my body was healed. I knew then I had to share it with the whole Christian family.

With the Spirit's help, I have brought forth my newest book, JESUS WANTS YOU WELL. It presents the 4 step plan for working with the Lord to trigger the healing power in your own body. This ½ price offer is our way of introducing you to an arsenal of 35 proven tools for those who mean business for Christ!



YWEA: A Missionary-Education Thrust

1974 Project: Family Training Hour Emphasis

The three major steps in missionary education are to know, to will, and to do. All three of these steps are essential in the development of a Christpleasing attitude toward global

responsibilities.

The primary objective of the Youth World Evangelism Appeal (YWEA) is to help young people to know, to will, and to do in relationship to God's work around the world. To achieve this goal with both influence and inspiration, it is advantageous to include the entire family in outlining and in issuing information about YWEA activities. A unique plan has been designed for the 1974 appeal that will help each member of the family to know, to will, and to support the European Bible College project.

A sixteen-page, 5½-by-11½-ineh booklet, with three holes for notebook storage, has been prepared by the General Department of Youth and Christian Education. The booklet is divided into three sections: Junior-Junior High, Teen, and Adult. The month of February has been designated as a time to emphasize YWEA in the Family Training Hour (FTH). Each local church is being asked

to set aside at least one FTH night to present the European Bible College ehallenge.

The three age-level programs are designed to give an overview of the work of the Church of God in Europe. As family members are introduced to our missionaries and the customs of the different countries, the three steps in missionary education—to know, to will, and to do—will be achieved.

Through the FTH emphasis, missions can become meaningful to each member of the family. After the "Facts and Vision" program, or perhaps while promoting the Bible school project, the "make missions meaningful" stance could become a reality in your life. Read the five points listed below and earnestly seek the Lord for His missions will to be developed in your life.

Make Missions Meaningful
1. I realize the pressing importance of understanding, believing in, and promoting God's world-mission plan. This plan is designed to touch the lost of every continent, vil-

lage, and hamlet with the story of eternal life through faith in Jesus Christ. I will endeavor to do my part in the fulfillment of this God-eommanded ministry.

2. I will commit myself to the mission eommission: "Ye shall be witnesses unto me . . . unto the uttermost part of the earth," in such a manner that my life will influence others to believe and obey Christ's mission eharge. I will witness by giving, fostering, and influencing others to participate in missions activities.

3. I am in partnership with Christ. This elose connection will be reflected in personal giving for the upkeep and extension of my ehurch's campaign to reseue the perishing in

foreign fields.

4. I will yield my life to Christ and obey His command, "Follow me." If the Spirit sets me apart for foreign service, I will say, "Here am I, send me." If I am assigned to home duty, I will faithfully remember the ones who receive orders to go.

5. I will apply myself as an intercessory foreign missionary and will consider this saered privilege as an appointment and binding duty. I will also remember the missionaries by writing letters and sending needed supplies. God has marvelously implanted His love in my heart. I cannot do less than tell others that He can do the same for them. †

Floyd D. Carey, Tips to Teens on World Missions (Pathway Press)

NEW! For the Sunday School!

Communicating God's Word to a Continent

The gospel message—European youth are active and receptive.



Germany



Holland



France

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON COMPANION

By Floyd D. Carey



- * The Sunday School Lesson Companion introduces a new method of pupil involvement and a new dimension for relating the lesson to real life.

 To our knowledge, no other house or denomination has a program of this nature.
- * The Companion is a notebook designed with space for the student to record his reactions to the Sunday school lesson.
- * The Companion is practical and simple. These two qualities are basic to effective learning. While a teacher explains the lesson, a pupil records his personal impressions of the lesson. Also, he applies it to particular areas of his life. The Companion offers a step-by-step guide for him to do this. This is a very simple approach, but it involves the pupil—thinking, reaching conclusions, analyzing, projecting, and summarizing. These are the objectives of the Sunday school class period.
- * The Companion is ideal for teen-agers, young adults, and adults. Also, it could be used by juniors. Keep in mind, however, that the Companion, like the Evangelical Commentary, is an auxiliary piece. It will not interfere with, or take the place of, other Sunday school literature.
- * The Companion has a two-color cover and consists of 60 pages.
- * The Companion sells for only fifty cents and is used for an entire year. Also, it is undated, so it can be used at any time.
- * The Companion will help both youth and adults to become more involved in understanding and applying the Sunday school lesson.
- * We are living in God's golden day for Sunday school emphasis and enlargement in the Church of God. The Companion, a student involvement tool, will assist us in advancing the Sunday school cause.

Order from:

Church of God Publishing House 922 Montgomery Avenue Cleveland, Tennessee 37311

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Youth World Evangelism Appeal

Action Line Report: State-Sponsored Happenings, Local Church Events, and Individual Expressions

The voice of South African pastor J. F. Rowland still rings through the chambers of my mind as he challenged Church of God youth with the admonition, "You must get involved."

In "The Bethesda Story" filmstrip he reminded the viewers of the message of Joshua 13:1, "And there remaineth yet very much land to be possessed."

This passage could be paraphrased to read: "And the amount of land that remaineth for us to occupy is very great indeed."

Just as Joshua was reminded by the Lord of the brevity of time remaining for him to work and of the inevitable fact that much land remained to be conquered, we too were reminded, in the 1973 YWEA promotion, that we must hasten to do the work which lies before us. The State of Arizona accepted the urgent challenge to raise monies to help build the South African Indian Bible School where workers could be trained to harvest souls for the Lord. The initial planning began in the state office by sending to each local church a promotional packet. The packet included a \$1 bill with instructions and encouragement on how to multiply "the talent dollar." For the 1973 project all of our churches accepted the challenge and began to raise money by having car washes, bike-a-thons, candy sales, youth-choir appearances, etc.

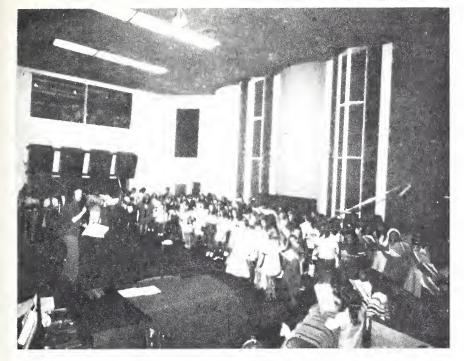
The highlight of the campaign was a radio-thon, sponsored by the Arizona Youth and Christian Education Department. Each YWEA representative reported the amount of money raised by the youth of the local church to his district youth director. In turn, the district director called in to the radio-thon on station KFMM, Tucson, Arizona, with the total figures for the churches on his district.

We feel that the radio-thon not only benefited the state in raising the record amount of \$4,019.79 for YWEA, but it also acquainted Arizonians with the Church of God through the remarks of Commentator Norman Stallings, state youth director, and the musical recordings of the "Forward in Faith" choir, the Ladies of Lee, Pianist Max Morris, and other Church of God singers and musicians.

-Norman L. Stallings



Norman L. Stallings, State Director of Arizona



Georgia Youth Reachout

The young people of Georgia responded to the 1973 YWEA project in a language that all youth know and enjoy—music. The challenge brought together youth voices from all over the state to be blended into a symphony of concern; and then youth were challenged to respond to the charge to "go . . . into all the world, and preach the gospel" (Mark 16:15).

For the past two years (1970-71 and 1971-72), Georgia has led the nation in YWEA giving. Many of our local churches have sponsored car washes, bake sales, walkathons, and candy sales with terrific results. This year, however, I wanted the youth to get involved by using their time and talents in a concentrated promotion centering on music.

We decided to make a YWEA Reachout album, using young people throughout the state to form a mass youth choir. We planned to sell the album and to use the profits on the 1973

project. After selecting the songs and making contacts, we were ready to announce the program.

It was here that the work really began. The music was prepared and copies were mailed to youth choirs throughout the state. A time and place was set for seven regional practice sessions, and a song director and an accompanist were appointed for each region. All of the regional activities were designed to lead up to one big day—recording day.

The big day finally arrived: State Teen Day, May 19, 1973. They were there—hundreds and hundreds of them! What a beautiful sight! Busload after busload arrived at the Doraville campground for a youth spectacular that would not soon be forgotten. The big tabernacle choir was filled with enthusiastic, smiling faces—everyone excitedly looking forward to an experience which would be a first for most of them. It was the first practice with all of them together, but you would never have known it from the way they sang!

After a mass choir practice, and a lot of expression and sharing, the young people boarded buses and headed for LeFevre's Sound Studio to record the album and to put the finishing touches on an exciting venture. It was work; it was fun; it was a challenge—and Georgia's youth responded by blending their musical talents into one big voice, reaching out in love to the YWEA Macedonian call.

The stereo recording was offered in long-play albums and 8-track and cassette tapes, with the proceeds going to YWEA. Proper credit for sales was given to each local church.

It was a wonderful adventure. Hundreds of people were involved. May God bless all of them!

-Kelland K. Jeffords

The Dakota Youthquake

The Dakotas, in the giving of previous years, had averaged fifty cents a member. A goal of one dollar a member was set for the 1973 project, and the challenge went forth for concerned young Dakotans to get involved and do their fair share. They joined hands with young people from across the United States and Canada, and a record amount was raised. The Dakotas experienced a genuine "youthquake" as goals were surpassed and young people committed themselves to involvement.

How did they do it?

As it appears that people will be eating for quite some time to come, food is a fair commodity to use in raising money. Bake sales are always in vogue and were sponsored by many youth groups. The church at Lignite, North Dakota, more than doubled their giving goal by conducting a Father and Son Banquet. One church in the small German community of Tolstoy, South Dakota, annually raises YWEA funds with a smorgasbord sausage and pancake supper.

The stimulating visual prepared by the General Department of Youth and Christian Education made the YWEA project personal to Dakota youth. District directors were responsible to see that this audio-visual presentation received a showing in each church on the district, and they did a tremendous job of promotion.

Poster contests were conducted to bring the project to the attention of the congregation; and walkathons brought the need of the South African Indians to the attention of the community. YWEA banks were passed out, and young people began to wash ears and earn money to help Indian youth help themselves.

Young people from the Lemmon Church of God had everything rolling in the right direction as the Teen Mission Club almost tripled their goal by raising over \$425 for missions. Concerned adults also pitched in and offered solid support by giving in special offerings to assist the young people in their worthwhile effort.

How thrilling it was to see young and old alike unselfishly commit themselves to the task at hand! It's just that kind of commitment that does not stop and start with each year but continues from year to year; and excitement is mounting as attention is focused on the European Bible College.

These methods of fund-raising are used by many youth groups, and the Dakota youth were not especially unique. The important thing is that there was a "youth-quake" by concerned teens which will be felt among South African Indians for years to come.

-Robert Frazier

Delmarva-D.C. Youth Support Missions

As the reports began to filter into the state office, it became obvious that Church of God young people "were not going to let Jesus down," on the 1973 YWEA project to build the South African Indian Bible School.

The young people of the Church of God responded to the need for a Bible school by raising over \$215,000 for the 1973 project. The youth of Maryland, Delaware, and the District of Columbia rallied to this urgent project by raising \$6,138.10. This represents the work of young people interested in taking the Great Commission into South Africa, as well as promoting it at home.

"But," you may ask, "how did they go about raising the money?"

One of the most effective means seemed to be the personalized dime folders. One of our churches in the Washington, D.C., area used the YWEA filmstrip to show the need and to spark some real enthusiasm in the project. The YWEA director appointed by the church coordinated the promotion. Using the personalized dime folders, prepared by the state's Youth Department, they raised over \$600 from their local church and community for the 1973 Indian school project.

The challenge was real, the commitment sincere, and the results positive. Why? Because Church of God young people ean't let Him down!

-Bill Reid

European Bible College Students Speak Out



Yugoslavia

My parents are Christians and members of the Church of God in Yugoslavia. I have been a member of the Church of God since 1970. I have enjoyed my work in the church (as assistant pastor) and in the youth work, and I believe the Lord will help me prepare myself even better for His work in the future. I am happy that the Lord has made it possible for me to come to the Bible school in Germany. I desire always to do His will and live for Him.

—Dusko Nicin



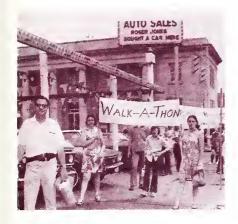
England

I am happy here at the Bible College because I feel that I am in God's will. The training that I am receiving will enable me to be a strong worker for His glory.

—Isinta Brown

Walking and Witnessing

Moundsville, West Virginia



The youth of the Moundsville Church of God sponsored a walkathon to raise money for the 1973 YWEA project. Led by their pastor (a real example), the Reverend H. C. Lamb, they walked ten miles.

In the walkathon—sponsored by the business firms, friends, and relatives—the youth walked for one dollar a mile. The event occurred in 91-degree weather, and still the young people raised \$151.

In the picture of this march, the action is led by the canteentoting pastor, the Reverend H. C. Lamb, who is followed by Jackie Taylor and Julie Lamb. The picture with an accompanying article appeared in *The Moundsville Daily Echo*.

YWEA Offers a Twofold Opportunity



J. L. Peterson

As a pastor I am convinced the YWEA program offers the local church a twofold scriptural opportunity—missions giving and missions training. Since we believe in the lordship of Jesus Christ, we must be vitally concerned about His commission of world evangelism.

The Joy of Helping Others

I treasure the opportunity to work with YWEA. Through this program, many young people have found that there is joy in helping others. As for myself, it has given me new goals in life.

I feel that the YWEA program has proved as valuable to the youth of the church as it has to those whom we have helped. It is a work that helps one to grow spiritually and provides happiness and fulfillment.

-Melinda Taylor

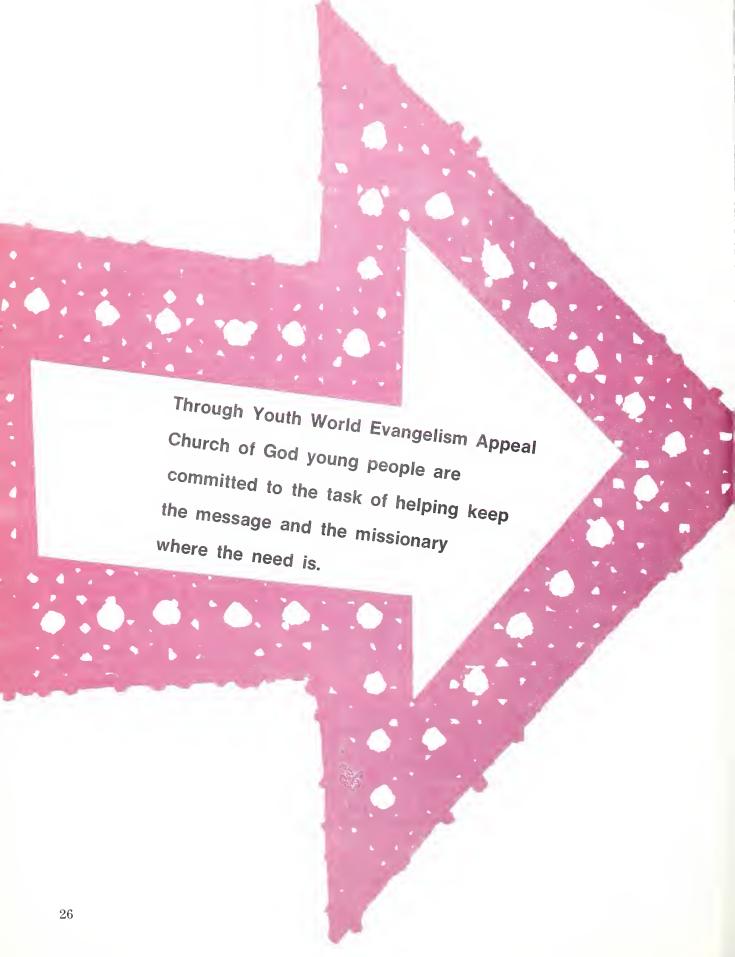


If a church is to have a mission vision, its members must be taught what their responsibility is from their youth up. What method of teaching could be more effective than actual involvement? I have been made to rejoice at the willing response of our young people: they obviously desire the satisfaction that comes from sharing what they have in order to see souls saved and blessed in countries that lie beyond their personal reach geographically. I believe their cheerful giving from their limited resources serves to inspire giving on the part of the entire church.

As a former missionary I have also observed the tremendous benefit that this program has on the foreign field. Today the largest Protestant church in the Republic of Haiti is a monument to what YWEA can do. This church, that has a membership and Sunday school attendance of approximately twenty-two hundred, has multiministries that demand the use of its facilities seven days a week.

In poverty-plagued Haiti this building could never have been realized, nor could the goals of this church been attained, if it had not been for our young men and women joining their efforts with others in giving through YWEA.

This is only one example of many great projects that have been accomplished throughout the world. I feel that to invest in another project—such as the one before us this year—is an opportunity to multiply our ministry as a church in an important part of God's harvest field.









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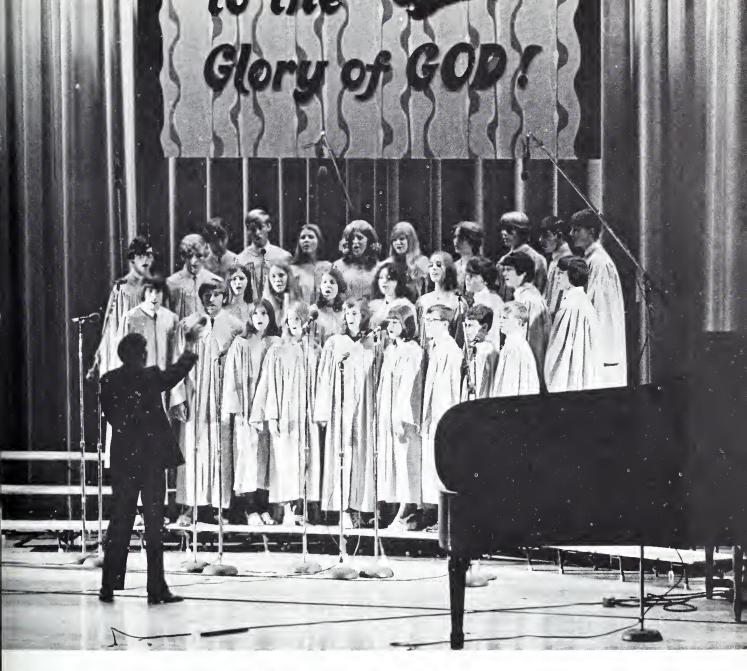
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On these pages is featured a photo essay of the exciting competition during the 1972 Teen Talent program.









Joy, excitement, tears, achievement . . . all leading young people to maturity and service.

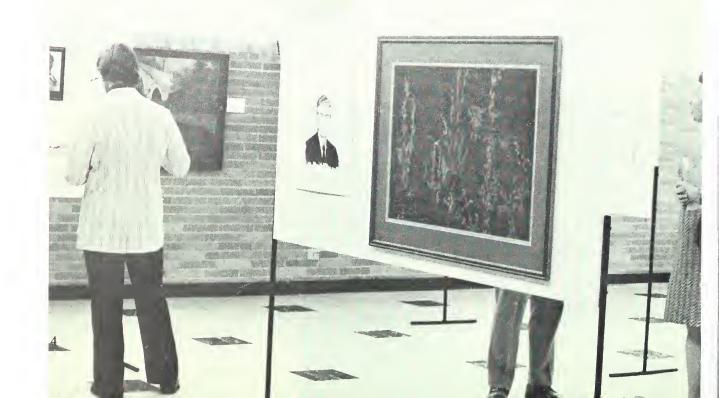


Winning isn't everything, but it surely is an exciting experience!





or or opposite the





RANDY WEEKS / MOBILE (CRICHTON)

NATIONAL CHOIR CHAMPIONS



"Winning in the choir division seemed to be just the beginning of new opportunities for our ministry."

Praise God for a nationally-organized Tecn Talent program that discovers youthful skills and talents which otherwise would continue to lie dormant! More than any other single influencing force, this program is responsible not only for discovering talents, but also for developing these abilities and inspiring young people to use them for God's glory.

Only one visit to Crichton Church in Mobilc, Alabama, will be convincing testimony of the farreaching positive influence which the talent program can have on a local church in only four years' time.

It was at the 1966 Assembly that I had my first encounter with the Crichton Church. Following the Youth Night service, a red-haired teen-ager approached me in the corridor, and I readily determined that he had been greatly impressed with the Youth Night display of talent. In his excitement he said, "What our church needs is a minister of music." Six years later

on National Youth Night, as I looked on the choir risers, I observed that I was directing that young man in the tenor section of Crichton Teen Singers. I am sure that this is but one of hundreds of "success stories" that could be told in relation to Teen Talent.

Our winning in the choir division seemed to be just the beginning of new opportunities of ministry. Upon our return to Mobile, we received newspaper, radio, and television coverage. We realized very soon that this recognition must have been the divine will of God, because, as a result of this publicity, we were flooded with opportunities of ministry which we never even dreamed of. Civic and denominal-church invitations have been abundant. How marvelous it has been to witness definite moves of the Holy Spirit even as we have ministered to non-Pentecostal groups.

In order to extend the boundaries of our outreach,

NATIONAL CHOIR CHAMPIONS

Continued from page 5

we purchased a touring bus and our summer touring ministry has taken us into most of the Southeastern states as well as into Ohio, Michigan, West Virginia, and Canada.

The commission which God has placed on us has been in the area of winning souls to the Kingdom and involving them in the local church. The Teen Singers' ministry is the greatest single agency for recruiting teen-agers into our church and as a result of the constant involvement and the unity which it brings about, the "drop-out" problem is minimal.

Many churches, young people, and youth sponsors have golden intentions in regards to organizing a youth choir program, but too often are plagued by procrastination. The Teen Talent entry deadlines sometimes serve as the bit of incentive needed to get that program organized into a functional unit. Later, with proper adult guidance and the direction

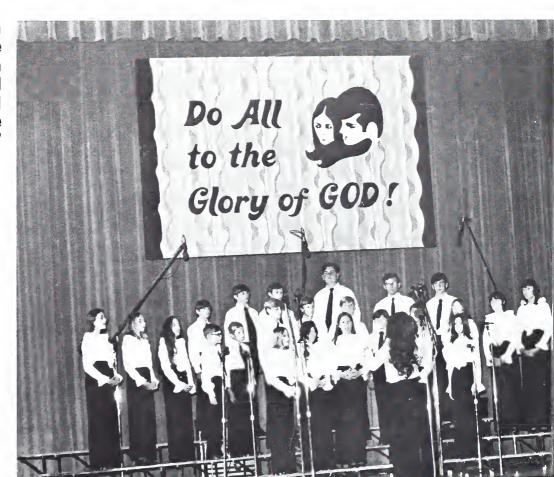
of the Holy Spirit, the competitive aspect of the program is replaced by a genuine desirc for actual ministry in song—this is the ultimate motive in promoting a national Teen Talent search.

Youth today are looking for a cause worthy of their support. Church youth desire to be an integral and purposeful force in the church, and they want to reach other young people. Therefore, let us utilize them to get the message of Christ's kingdom to others through the medium of music.

Without doubt, this past year has been the greatest in my ministry. Even more exciting is the fact that there is no way to envision the doors God will open for us in the future as we follow Him.

For all that has been or will be accomplished by the Teen Talent program, I can say: "To God be the glory! Great things He has done!" \bot

"Church youth desire to be an integral and purposeful force in the church..."





TEEN-AGERS LOVE MUSIC

BY BILLY J. O'NEAL

Teen-agers love music! In fact, most teen-agers love it if it's a vocal solo, an instrumental number, or a choir performance. As a teen-ager one identifies with music because it carries a message. Music turns teenagers on! Music communicates! It's out of sight!

However, we must acknowledge it takes talent to communicate good music. Also, one's talent may vary in rating according to his ability and development of that talent. The Church of God plays a vital role in helping teen-agers (thirteen through nineteen years of age) to develop their talent through the Teen Talent ministry.

The Music Division of Teen Talent is designed to recognize Church of God young people who display talent, skill, and accomplishments in music—vocal, keyboard, instrumental—and to encourage them to utilize their ability in worship and service for the purpose of Christian witness. The Teen Talent program is a ministry.

I think of some of the young people whom I know who have won—like Jimmy Phillips from the Woodmore Church of God in Chattanooga, Tennessee. He won first place in the vocal solo category at the 1972 General Assembly. What a voice! Jimmy is now in Lee College, a member of the famous Lee Singers and a blessing to people everywhere he sings. Jimmy plans to be a minister of music in a local church someday. How about Julie Harr from the Mosinee. Wisconsin, Church of God. Julie's trio won first place in the vocal ensemble category at

the 1970 General Assembly. Could those girls sing! Julie, a scnior at Lee College and a member of the Lee Singers, won the Parade of Favorites because of her developed talent. Phil Thomas is from the Cross City, Florida, Church of God. Phil won first place in the keyboard solo at the 1972 General Assembly. Did you know that Phil is the pianist for the Singers III? And there is Karen Hobgood from the Monroe, Louisiana, Church of God. Karen won runner-up in the keyboard solo at the 1968 General Assembly. She is now the organist for the Lee Singers.

On and on the Teen Talent story goes. Hundreds upon hundreds of teen-agers have been involved in this great Teen Talent program—a music ministry to make a music ministry! +



The Exciting Sounds of Teen Talent

KELLAND K. JEFFORDS

Experience gained in Teen Talent competition strengthens participants in their work for Christ.







Fun, fcllowship, friends—these words express the exciting sounds of Teen Talent. Whether it be on a regional, state or national level of competition, the same thrill is overwhelming. No matter whether you win or lose in competition, you are always the winner because your particular ability brings glory to God and purpose to life.

In 1972 and 1973 thousands of young people between the ages of thirteen and nineteen were involved in the annual Teen Talent competition sponsored by the General Department of Youth and Christian Education.

The Music Division of Teen Talent is designed to recognize Church of God young people who display talent in music—vocal, keyboard, instrumental—and to encourage them to utilize their ability in worship and service for the purpose of sharing Jesus Christ through music and song. The talent search follows three levels of competition—regional, state, national—and involves vocal and instrumental contests in six categories.

Regional and state winners

receive recognition and honors as outlined by each respective state. All participants in the national competition are presented a certificate of achievement. National champions are announced and receive trophics at the Teen Talent Awards Activity at the General Assembly. They are also recognized on Youth Night and their pictures are highlighted in a special Lighted Pathway feature.

Interest among Church of God youth in the Music Division of Tcen Talent increases each year. By their involvement in the exciting musical ministry of our Teen Talent program, our youth have the opportunity to excel and to achieve fantastic feats: (1) fitting into the plan and program of God; (2) gaining experience by recognizing and using his God-given talents; (3) telling the "good news" of Jesus Christ through their ministry of music and song.

Our youth must experience and feel the enjoyment that comes from participation in Teen Talent competition and in sharing Jesus Christ, not only in testimony, but in music and song. Music is an important part of every young person's life. Surely no one has more reason to sing and enjoy beautiful music than Christians. God has given us a song. Church of God young people have something to say to the world. Let us reach youth through youth, using their talents as the medium. +



The excellent and varied talents of Church of God youth are overwhelming.

FLOYD D. CAREY

How do you interpret the statement, "That person is good for nothing!" Ordinarily this expression is used to denote the absence of desire and drive in the life of an individual. It is a labeling and condemning statement.

One of the virtues associated with the Christian experience is goodness. A teen Christian is good because his sinful nature has been replaced with a spiritual nature and he observes a new, holy order of conduct. He is endowed with the capabilities to mature spiritually and socially and to actively contribute to the advancement of God's kingdom on earth.

How do you interpret the statement, "That Christian teen is good for nothing!" This is not an ordinary expression, but it could be used to denote the absence of spiritual desire and drive in the life of an individual. A Christian teen is transformed by the power of God to be

a witness for Him—to be good for something. The basis of the Christian eonfession is the faet that people are ehanged by God and made good for something.

In the tenth chapter of Mark, Jesus talked with a man that had kept all the commandments from his youth (v. 20). Yet, he was unwilling to share his earthly treasures with the poor and to be identified with Christ by taking up the eross. This man kept the commandments all right, he was good—but he was good for nothing.

The Teen Talent program of the Church of God was created to assist young people in recognizing personal and collective talents and to guide them in developing and using them for the glory of God. It is an anchor program to support Christian teens in advancing in spiritual maturity. It is a ministry that helps our youth to be good for something! And praise the Lord, it has been

effective. Thousands of Church of God youth have been touched by this program and led into new experiences and new areas of personal expression for the glory of God.

This edition of the *Lighted* Pathway will feature youthgeared articles about the Teen Talent program. Several former winners will express how the eompetition influenced their life-style and Christian testimony. Some of the articles are designed to inspire, while others are directed to inform. The 1974 Teen Talent competition will be the greatest in the history of the program. There will be more divisions than ever before; more resouree materials will be offered (cheek the resource materials ad in this issue); and more young people will participate. The emphasis of the program, however, will remain the same—"Do all to the glory of God!"

Be good for something! Support the Teen Talent program.



JAMES L. PHILLIPS

TALENTED TEEN WITH DETERMINATION

"The national Teen Talent winner, vocal solo category for 1972, from the State of Tennessee is himmy Phillips!" This announcement climaxed one of the most exciting evenings my life. As I flect merous occ ions ad been a pa icipart he Teen Tale program, the faces of m y teen-agers came to mind een-agers ho, like myse had worked ard in their rticular ategory to ach ve national honors.

My thoughts returned to the year 1966 when I first entered the Teen Talent competition in my hometown—Chattanooga, Tennessee.
Thirten years old, and with knees mocking, I won the first poterict competition I ever entered. My defeat in the following regional competition certainly had no stifling effects, because the very next year I entered competition again. Teen Talenthad a very positive effect on me. Each time that I competed and lost, I became

even more determined and worked even harder. I believe that the young people of the Church of God do not actually realize how fortunate they are to have an opportunity to engage in this kind of competition. In Teen Talent competition, I have found that with all of the hours of practice and worry, I am doing something more than merely refining my particular talent for competition; I am bettering myself so that God may use the best I have to offer.

A TALENTED TEEN WITH DETERMINATION

Continued from page 11

The year 1967 was a repeat of the year before. Again I lost in regional competition. In 1968, things seemed to get worse, for I lost in district competition. Even though it was another defeat, it didn't hurt very much since it was my first cousin, Brenda Phillips, who took first place honors. It was different in 1970, for the Tennessee Teen Talent program had no regional competitions. All district winners went directly to state finals. Yet, that didn't help because I again lost in district competition.

That particular year, 1970, a lovely young lady by the name of Gay Pettyjohn, who is now Mrs. Jerry Smith, won the state finals in Tennessce in the vocal solo category and went on to capture national honors in St. Louis. Mrs. Smith is a close friend of mine, and I was thrilled to see her achieve such an honor. While talking with her one day, she gave me a strong word of encouragement and urged me to enter the Teen Talent competition again the next Assembly year.

Well, that year, 1972, finally arrived and the locations of the district and regional competitions were announced.



Before I knew it, I found myself at the Tennessee Camp Meeting right in the mainstream of state final competition. When I won, it was quite a shock; for I had never before won even a regional contest! After the announcement came that I had been selected as state Teen Talent winner in my division, my thoughts turned to Dallas, Texas, and the 1972 General Assembly.

I've often wondered why music means so much to me. I suppose the reason could be that my parents were always there to help me with anything I needed to satisfy my love for music. Yet, there is another person—the late Betty Cerezo whom I shall never forget. Even though she was small in stature, she was a towering spiritual giant. Serving as church pianist, and directing the ladies' chorus and a youth choir were only a few of her responsibilities at the Woodmore Church of God, my home church. Betty will always remain in my memory as a saint of God who loved others more than herself. She instilled in my heart a desire to work for God in every way I could. Betty lived a life of total dedication to the work of Christ. She believed in young people with all her heart, and more than once she let me know that she wanted me to succeed for God. Betty believed—just as I do—that Teen Talent is a great tool to be used in discovering the talents, musical or otherwise, of the teen-agers of the Church of God so that God can receive the glory.

When that final moment came and I held the national trophy in my hand, I knew then that it wasn't there because of my own merits: it was there because of loving parents and wonderful friends. +



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Life is a quest for meaning and maturity, and college days are one of the most critical periods in this quest. It is during the college years that some of the most important decisions of your life are made: the vocation you will follow; the choice of a marriage partner; the search or understanding of who you are; the struggle with your reason for

others and to develop a deeper appreciation for his own sub-culture. His faith also grows and develops as he compares his experiences with those of others.

Another reason that the college experience makes the difference is that it provides the opportunities to cultivate a high sense of ethical and spiritual excellence as a

being, and the purpose for

standard of personal behavior.

constantly strive to add to our knowledge. "Wisdom is the principle thing; therefore, get wisdom and with all thy getting get understanding" (Proverbs

church seem no longer ade-

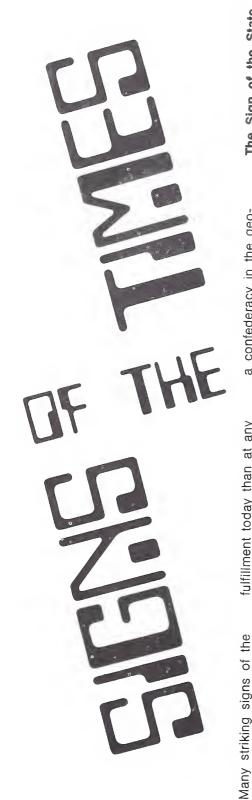
rer is the student encouraged to seek the truth; he is also urged to communicate the truth.

This intellectual maturity is more than the accumulation of information—it is characterized by a way of thinking

Religious Faith and Conviction

In the matter of religious faith and conviction, the college experience can be for good or bad. College students are often heard to report, "I lost my faith at college." Why is this true for many students? Why does the faith of the student's family and his home

which recognizes that we mus-



fulfillment today than at any previous time in history. are evident in the world today. approaching advent of Christ

The Sign of the World Church:

Indeed a combination of situa-

lions and events point to an

will be preceded by the com-

ing of Christ for His church.

imminent world crisis which

worship, mind-expansion, and In his book The Late Great amazing rejuvenation of starwitchcraft—are preparing the asserts: "We believe that the will influence the Antichrist." religious system, one which world in every way for the present ecumenical moveoining of churches in the ment-combined with this Planet Earth, Hal Lindsey establishment of a great

be inconclusive, the combina-

of which have occurred in our

dramatic situations-many tion of such an array of

generation—leads to the con-

clusion that Christ's coming

for His church may be very

Although any single sign may

The world church is called ion 17). This will be the reliworld church is an important sign of the times. It has every a harlot in the Bible (Revelait will work closely with Antiof Revelation 17, which is a earth after the Rapture, and move toward an ecumenical gious system left upon the appearance of the "harlot" christ. Indeed the massive

Though it is weak in its present in a form of world government. Roman Empire will emerge at 24, 25). In our day, in the formen throughout the world to for the first time in all human mation of the United Nations, accept the idea that a united graphic area of the ancient world have banded together the end-time (Daniel 7:7, 8, form, the United Nations is world government is a way a confederacy in the geoconditioning the minds of history the nations of the to peace.

The Sign of the Common Market:

ship in the old Roman Empire. that a ten-nation confederacy will arise. It is no mere coinciprojected ten-nation memberdence that the Market has a 8:25, that someday a person The Bible makes it clear with economic strength and The Bible tells us in Daniel unusual ability will appear

in Jerusalem.

The Sign of the State of Israel:

wandering Jews to their ancient The formation of the nation the way for a Jewish Temple more than two and one-half with its Temple site prepares of Israel is highly significant our day, for the first time in and. The possession of the lears, a major return of the -and in comparison to the in relation to the prophetic now there in an organized Word. In World War I only sraelites were in the Holy significant that there is in million Israelites who are political state. It is highly more than three thousand ancient city of Jerusalem orty thousand scattered

Christ for His church. However, the emergence of such a large no one is authorized to estabish dates for the coming of It is clear from the study of prophetic Scriptures that

The Sign of Russia:

near. At least five of the signs

are mentioned below:

its cities ruined, its manpower Only twenty-five years ago of the world has a nation risen and political strengths in the Russia was a broken nation, one of the greatest military world. Never in the history destroyed. Today Russia is

so fast and extended its con-

be upon us, and that we have

ferences of opinion as to the dwelling in safety and in peace. Though there are difthe Holy Land from the north prophecy of Ezekiel is nearer time of the invasion, this at a time when Israel is

Government:

Christ's return.

period of the Tribulation. The indication of the nearness of sign of the Common Market the earth for the seven-year be Antichrist and will rule

pearing. He may come today! pen at any moment. May God the Lord's coming may haphelp us to be prepared and to keep looking for His apevery right to believe that PERSONAL APPEARANCE NOOS WATCH for the could well be a very significant OMUNIC empires described in Daniel 7, of the end of the age will be One of the characteristics the vision of the four world will embrace all nations. In a world government which 1 THESS. 4:16,17

will there be the freedom. not be the leisure for it, nor never come again. There will most, such an experience will makes the difference. Foreindeed the experience that with conviction that college is

grow and to change. dream bold dreams, and to thoughts, meet different people lenges you to think new smooth transition that changes It is a way of living that chalfrom high school to college. grade thirteen; it is not a To be sure, college is not

Rewarding Experiences

ciding to attend college. many other reasons for deschool graduate, there are a higher salary than the high much more job security and that the college graduate has paying job. While it is true in order to secure a higher think that the purpose of college is to learn a vocation Many students seem to

dividuality and uniqueness of He learns to accept the indifferent cultures come toas their own. In college, where to broaden his outlook on life gether, the student is able people from different areas and world views are much the same people whose life-styles and where they associate with live in a rather narrow world types of people. Most people portunity to meet different rewards of college is the op-One of the most important

> sistent in putting his beliefs he is encouraged to be conare quickly challenged, and into practice. he believes. Superficial beliefs what he believes, but also why

meet the social and spiritual tunities include working to Depending on the purpose of opportunities for direct involveneeds, but they are providing only informing students about and more colleges are not standing of the problems of needs of others. the college, these opporment in meeting those needs. in meeting those needs. More others can lead to involvemen fortunate. Increased undering compassion for those less fers opportunities for develop-The college experience of-

and enrich the life of the stutural events that will expand certs, lectures, and other culare provided to attend conon new meaning. Opportunities speech, manners-all take things of life. Music, art, cultivate a taste for the finer college is the opportunity to Another reward of attending

examined prejudice. Not only the tired thought, the unmonplace, the routine opinion, is required to change. College merely expected to change; he maturity. The student is not also leads to intellectual a vacation—from the com-The college experience

> stone," to use an often used stumbling block or a stepping good or bad! It can be "a that makes the difference for collede is the exhellelice

in college and from then on. even the quality of his life both makes set the direction and The choices that a student

study, and spiritual developdeal about one's social deassociations will say a great velopment, attitude toward Wisdom in choosing such by our group affiliations. We are definitely influenced identifies with on campus. clude the groups the student Some of these choices in-

cases, outright failure. achievement, and, in many curricular activities will take priorities—putting first things of his time. This involves student must make is the use its toll in poor grades, underfirst. Overinvolvement in extra-Another choice that the

> student if he is to maintain his spiritual heritage and exhonestly faced by the college perience a deepening of his אחפטווטווט ווומו ווווטוו שפ

portunities for Christian sercommunity of learning; inspiradministrators, concerned with ture; dedicated faculty and tunities for the student to vice—all afford rich opporing chapel services; and opthe building of a Christian to delve deeply into the Scriprich biblical studies, designed perience of the student. The definite advantages in this ex-The Christian college offers

difference. * experience that makes the Perhaps no other experience periences of the years ahead because of the rewarding exabout to enter are to be envied enrich his mind and spirit. fruitful. College is indeed the in life will be as exciting and college and those who are Those students who are in



Floyd D. Carey

Lonzo T. Kirkland R. Lamar Vest Cecil R. Guiles

Campus Evangelism

* Paul E. Duncan

Contributors

James E. Humbertson

"Truthway" is a campus evangelism promotion prepared four times a year for the *Lighted Pathway* by the General Department of Youth and Christian Education—compiled by Floyd D. Carey: art work by Lonzo T. Kirkland.

A MUSICAL NOTE TO TEENS

MRS. ALICE BARWICK

The sound of music is everywhere! And, in our soundcrazy times, teens will do well to examine the music they find themselves addicted to, as well as the message conveyed by that music. Yes, the music that fills the airwaves bears many messages in its listening pleasure. This short note to interested teens concerns Paul's words to the Ephesians: "Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord" (Ephesians 5:19).

When God created man, He created him with the ability to make music and to invent music-producing instruments. These God-given abilities are but two of the many talents which enable man to offer highest praise to his Creator. "I'm

"Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord."

gonna keep on singing" expresses one way that Church of God teens can "praise God from whom all blessings flow."

The statement of purpose from the Teen Talent Music Division brochure states, "The Music Division of Teen Talent is designed to recognize Church of God young people who display talent, skill, and accomplishment in music—vocal,

keyboard, instrumental—and to encourage them to utilize their ability in worship and service for the purpose of Christian witness." In other words, instead of merely worshiping at the shrine of music and abusing their God-given abilities, the Church of God encourages its music-loving youth to deliberately "sing the wond'rous love of Jesus." Remember, it is the purpose behind your music-making that causes your listeners to worship or to be entertained. There is no neutral position where the sound of music is concerned. When the depraved sound music associated with the "god of this world"—has passed away, music—a vehicle for worship will continue on in God's heaven. And, oh, what a glorious sound!

"Make your own kind of music" is a catchy little theme, and it is one that can certainly be carried over into the Teen Talent Music Division. Many of you who have never considered entering before, should be motivated to enter the competition this coming year. (Enter at the local level, and you may proceed from there to the district level, on to the regional level, and on to the state level. From there you may go on to the national competition at the General Assembly. Every national winner started in his or her home church. You'll never know whether you can win until you give it a try!)

While hopefully encouraging you to "do your own thing," wish to remind you that the

music which is your "thing" reveals the dedication of your heart, just as your performance reveals your diligent dedication to the arts. (You may obtain

"By all means, you must put your talent to work and reap the reward which may come to you in August, 1974..."

general information about entry requirements and the procedure of judging from your district

youth director.)

Do you really love music? Is music what really turns you on? Are you comfortable when performing—singing or playing? By all means, you must put vour talent to work and reap the reward which may come to you in August, 1974, as one of the national Teen Talent music champions! The rules are simple, and the joys of just trying are something you will treasure forever. Just ask any winner! Many young people have discovered hidden talents during Teen Talent competition and have discovered that music is the "solid stuff" which makes up the theme of their worship blessing not only themselves but others as well.

Why don't you adjust the reed or mouthpiece, tune the strings, practice the scales and arpeggios, ah-h-h-h-h-h-h your vocal chords. "Make a joyful noise unto the Lord . . . come before his presence with singing" (Psalm 100:1, 2).

Happy music-making to you

all! +

TEEN, WHY BURY YOUR MUSICAL TALENT?

BOB R. SUSTAR

Hey, Teen-ager, you can't sing too well with dirt in your mouth! And you can't play a trumpet with a shovel in your hands; it's impossible to move your fingers properly! Why not use all that energy you are wasting in a constructive way and get in on the "going thing"—the Musical Division of the 1974 Teen Talent?

Oh, I know you might say, "Well, I'm not as good as he is,

so why should I even try?" But let us consider for a moment this very important point: God has given *you* a musical talent which you are to improve as you mature. It is so wonderful that the Church of God wants to help *you* become better. God does expect your best!

There are six categories to meet all areas of interestvocal solo, vocal ensemble, instrumental solo (kcyboard), instrumental solo (nonkeyboard), instrumental ensemble, and choir. You will compete on regional, state, and national levels before a panel of judges. They will rate you according to tone, intonation, technique, and interpretation, as well as other factors. Your State Youth and Christian Education Director has a brochure outlining the details. Write him to obtain a free copy.

Since the General Youth and Christian Education Department of the Church of God sponsors this great event for Christian teen-agers, it is only reasonable that competition be confined to religious music. Also, it is a youth program and no one may enter before his thirteenth birthday or after his twentieth birthday. Teen, you should take advantage of joining this select group.

Regional and state winners will be honored by their respective areas, while national participants will be presented a certificate of achievement. All national champions will be announced and beautiful trophies will be presented at the Teen Talent Awards Activity during the General Assembly. Other honors will include recognition on Youth Night of the Assembly, and pictures of the winners will be highlighted in a special Lighted Pathway feature.

I personally know young people who, after participating in Teen Talent, are being a tremendous blessing to the Church of God by using their musical talents. They have decided to use—not bury—their God-given abilities.

Teen-ager, did you hear that? Someone just dropped his shovel and started practicing for the Teen Talent Finals—Dallas, 1974! \bot



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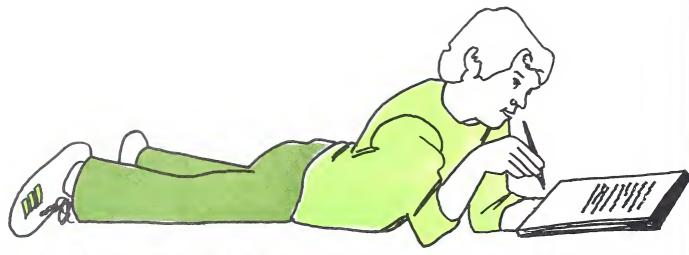
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HOW POWERFUL IS YOUR PEN? J. RALPH BREWER

A group of internationallyknown scientists visited the White House during the Presidential tenure of the late John F. Kennedy. The President made his appearance, greeted the distinguished guests, and complimented them by saying that they represented "the greatest concentration of talent in the history of the world." He paused, then added, ". . . except when Thomas Jefferson was in this same room." The President then explained that Thomas Jefferson was only a very young man when he could tie an artery, break a horse, calculate an eclipse, build an edifice, try a cause, play a violin, and write the Declaration of Independence.

Few people are endowed with the versatility of Thomas Jefferson and even fewer have the talent to write a document of such import as the Declaration of Independence. There are, however, many young people who possess latent writing skills which need to be discovered, utilized, and made productive.

Since earliest times, man has sought to communicate his thoughts, concepts, and experi-

ences to others. Unfortunately, he has not always succeeded. Scores of brilliant ideas have gone unrecorded, hundreds of beautiful poems have never been written, and countless articles of far-reaching impact have never materialized. The world is the poorer because someone didn't write.

In an attempt to unveil and develop the writing talents of Church of God young people, the General Department of Youth and Christian Education has expanded its Teen Talent program to include a Creative Writing Division. This division is designed to encourage young people to utilize their abilities in written communication for the purpose of Christian witness.

The New Creative Writing Division consists of four categories:

- 1. Short stories (fiction)
- 2. Articles and essays (non-fiction)
- 3. Plays and skits (fiction and nonfiction)
- 4. Poetry (rhymed or unrhymed)

There are two levels of competition, state and national. All manuscripts must have a religious theme, either explicit or implied, and must be written within the specified competition dates, September 1-March 1. (Further details may be obtained from the General Department of Youth and Christian Education or your State Youth and Christian Education Director.)

"Writing," it has been said,
"is a language of the hand," but
it is also a language of the
heart. It provides an excellent
opportunity for individuality
and self-expression and portrays
not only the author's personality,
but also his deepest emotions,
reflections, and attitudes.

The pen is powerful. It has changed the course and character of men and nations. It is an instrument of both good and evil, and its final effect is always dependent upon the conviction and authority of the one who wields it.

Young person, How powerful is your pen? Get it out and see. You may very well be a state or national winner in 1974. I would say that's something to write about.

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GOD HAD HIS HAND ON US

Lenoir City Trio—Vocal Ensemble Winners

We are the Teen Trio from the Sixth Avenue Church of God in Lenoir City, Tennessee. The members of the trio are Jean and Jo Hamilton and Denise Shoemaker.

When we first entered the Tecn Talent, we had no idea of what the Lord had in store for us. The competition started in our district, working on up to the regional, state, and national levels. Our experiences in this competition proved to be very exciting, and also gaining spiritually.

We encountered a few hardships that really made us doubt whether or not we could enter on the state and national levels. Just before we were to perform during the state competition, Denise developed laryn-

"Then they announced the winners: 'From the great State of Tennessee, the Lenoir City Teen Trio!"

gitis. She couldn't talk. How could we expect her to sing! But the Lord helped her as we sang Saturday afternoon, and again Saturday night, as we performed in front of the biggest crowd we'd ever sung to. We felt the anointing of God as we sang. That night, during the camp meeting, the state Teen Talent winners were announced. We were so thrilled to have won the state competition; and from there, we looked forward to the General Assembly to be held in Dallas, Texas.

Three weeks prior to the Assembly, Jean entered the hospital for tests. It was discovered that she had gallstones, so she had her gallbladder removed the next week. This really caused us to wonder whether we would be able to go to Dallas to enter in the national competition. The Lord really came through and gave her a "speedy" recovery. Her doctors agreed to let her fly to Texas.

Our week at the Assembly was really exciting. We enjoyed all the youth services, and we also enjoyed meeting so many young people. Here is a short resume of our activities, beginning on Thursday of

the General Assembly:

Thursday: This was the day of final competition! Just before we sang in the afternoon we were quite nervous; but as we prayed, the Lord gave us confidence that we would do our best. We sang, and He blessed our singing. When we finished, we were relieved. We listened to several very talented groups after we sang. We really enjoyed this and felt God's presence as they sang. That night we attended the worship service in the main auditorium. Brother Hughes, our General Overseer brought the message.

Friday: We listened to more groups in the Teen Talent. That night we went to the worship service and heard Brother Carl Richardson bring the

Saturday: We listened to the many youth choirs as they competed. This was the big night! We attended the worship service and heard Brother

John Nichols preach. After the service, the Teen Talent Banquet was held in the Crystal Ballroom in the Baker Hotel. There were many nervous young people there, anxiously awaiting the results of the 1972 Teen Talent.

First, we ate a big meal and were entertained. Finally, the time arrived for the Teen Talent results to be announced. The announcer started with the vocal solo winner and worked his way up to the vocal ensemble. Alas! The time had finally come for everyone to see who had won in our category. It was first announced that we, along with several other vocal ensembles, had a superior rating. Then they announced the winners: "From the great State of Tennessec, the Lenoir City Teen Trio!" We just couldn't believe that we had actually won! Brother Paul Henson congratulated us and awarded us a trophy.

More awards were given, and we were so happy We thanked the Lord that He had helped us to do our best.

Sunday: We were still on "cloud nine."

In the Special Youth Service, held that night, each winning Teen Talent group performed. It was quite an experience for us to sing in front of so many people. The Lord calmed our nervousness, as well as everyone else's, and we felt His presence as each person performed.

If you are considering entering Teen Talent next year, we encourage you to prepare and enter! You may face some hardships, but the Lord can help you overcome them. We feel that God especially had His hand on us last summer. We gained a new kind of relationship with God, because we learned that we can depend on Him for anything or for any problem. Winning, no matter if it's on the district, regional, state, or national level, encourages a person to do more for the Lord. So, even if you don't make it to the national competition, you are still a winner! +

BY ROBERT FRAZIER

The combined cry of talented Church of God young people has been heard! You have consciously or unconsciously expressed the need for recognition in the Teen Talent program. Congratulations! You're being "looked over" and not "overlooked." Plans have been made with those of you in mind who are talented in areas other than music. The Teen Talent Art program is just a part of the plan not to "overlook" teen talent.

Teen Talent Art gives you a chance to be unique. Your production must be original and not a copy. So you can hang loosc and create to your heart's content. The category is varied enough to accommodate you, regardless of your art specialization. The areas include ceramics, graphics, painting, photography, sculpture, and textiles. All entries, with the exception of photography, will be judged on effectiveness of composition, individuality or originality, technique, craftsmanship, attention to detail or neatness, and how well the subject enhances the natural character of the material used. Photography will be judged on effectiveness of composition and individuality or originality. The judges will also be personalizing the competition by providing you with helpful evaluation forms of your entries to assist you in the future. As you create, bear in mind that the winning state entry must go untouched to the General Assembly for the national competition.

You'll want to begin immediately. Waiting on the "right mood" may leave you in the lurch. Try this: Begin creating something and just see if the mood doesn't come before very long. You have plenty of time left now, so get right on it! You'll be surprised how fast time can fly.

Some of us may have different talents, but all of us have the same responsibility to develop those God-entrusted talents. You can be sure that God will not "overlook" any undeveloped or underdeveloped talent that we have. If the saying is true that "one picture is worth a thousand words," then think what a priceless privilege and opportunity Christians who are artistically talented have to witness for the Lord.

Along with great responsibility comes great satisfaction. To see something that you have formed begin to take shape is certainly gratifying. It then ceases to be an object of competition and becomes a creation.

The General Department of Youth and Christian Education has provided for the Art Division with you in mind. They're "looking you over." Don't "overlook" Teen Talent Art. \bot



The Artol. Artol. Winning



Crystal won in the Sculpture Division of Teen Talent.

BY CRYSTAL HANCOCK

Hurriedly, my sisters and I went to the Baker Hotel where the Teen Talent Banquet was to be held. A line was forming at the doors of the Crystal Ball Room, and everyone looked very lovely.

Now for the first time since stepping from the plane, my mind journeyed backward: It was only a year ago that I started with a lump of clay and water to begin what was to become a self-portrait.

The doors opened; it was 10 p.m. We all paraded in, through the buffet line, and then found a seat. I found a table with some of my South Carolina friends and sat down. The seats had a good view of the platform, but I was not hungry. It seemed it would take forever to eat. But finally the big moment came.

The winner in the sculpture division was to be announced first; I whispered a little prayer. Brother Guiles read out the names of those who had received a superior rating. He called out at least four names, and I just knew that I had not made it. Then mine came last. I was so nervous I could not think. Then Brother Guiles called my name as winner. All I could do was sit there. One of my sis-

THE ART OF WINNING

Continued from page 25

ters, sitting beside me said, "That's you." I went up to receive the award, but everything from that moment on went so very fast.

When I finally got back to the hotel about 3 a.m., even though worn out, I was filled with excitement. I told my parents and grandparents about my winning and then headed for bed. As I prayed that night, I thanked God for the Teen Talent program that gives Christian young people the chance to use their talent for the glory of God, and to meet other Christian people. I also thanked God for helping me to win, for having such a patient sculptor instructor, and for my

proud parents.

I went home extremely proud that I could represent South Carolina and my own church in Fort Mill. This award has given me many opportunities to use my talent for God.

The Teen Talent program offers many opportunities for Church of God youth to use their talents. With the various categories available, no one is excluded. It gives the young people a chance to meet with the district youth, and the winners to meet on a state level. A desire to excel in each category is created through the interest demonstrated at each level of competition. With the support of the local church, and district

and state officials, the winner in each category is very honored to receive the title and trophy for his state.

In the past four years I have seen a renewed interest demonstrated by the young people all over our state in the Teen Talent program. In a world where the majority of young people are confused and are seeking an aim in life, it is a great joy to see Christian young people who have found purpose in life and who are trying hard to develop their God-given talents. I thank God for the Church of God and its programs for youth.



"As I prayed that night, I thanked God for the Teen Talent program that gives Christian young people the chance to use their talent for the glory of God, and to meet other Christian people."

Dear Youth:

How gratifying it is to discover there is something about us worthwhile to our Lord. Whether we speak or write or sing or play an instrument or create things with our hands, God can use our talents if we prayerfully dedicate them to His glory.

I suppose all of us have something that could be useful to the Lord. I read in the Bible where even a donkey made a speech one wouldn't listen to a donkey talk!

I suppose all of us have something that could be useful to the useful to the a donkey made a speech one wouldn't listen to a donkey talk!

Then the Scriptures tell us about that little Israelite girl who gave a little speech to Naaman about God's healing power. Too, you will remember the youth who gave his lunch to feed thousands but the Lord used it, multiplying it orearly.

So when you think about it, God has not always required some big, earthshaking quality in people He has used. It seems to me what He mostly looks for is willingness to be used. And that is He has given us, though it may seem meager. If we dedicate our use to Him, we may be surprised at what He can do through

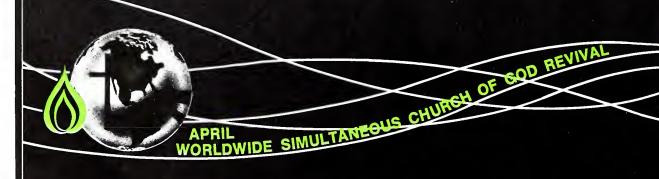
As you know, however, we have to do our part with our talent. We can't just say to the Lord "Here, take my talent and use it while I sit by." No, we must practice, study, and apply ourselves, trusting Him to use us. What the Lord wants us to demonstrate is work has gone down in God's History Book!

Yours for dedicated talents,

Clyne W. Buxton, editor LIGHTED PATHWAY

Approximately 10,000 congregations worldwide in the Church of God feel this need and in April of this year, perhaps a million or more members and friends will join together to win souls for Christ.

Will you dedicate yourself to this great challenge?







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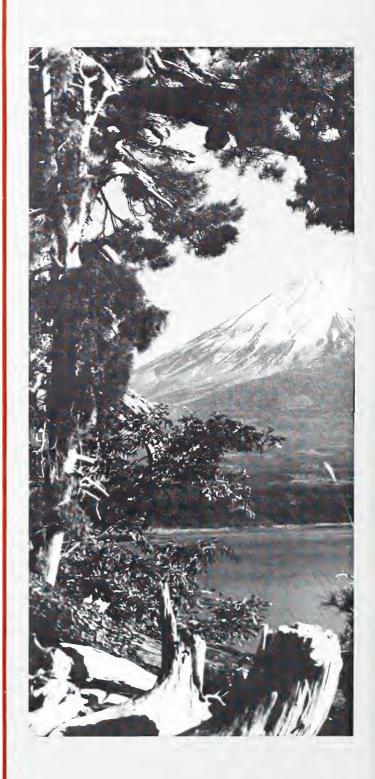
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SNOW, MOUNTAINS, AND F.T.H.



My Father, giver of all good things, as David did, so I also give You praise for the snows of Mount Hermon, even as I pray to Thee for our Family Training Hour.

We are just a snowflake, each one created differently by the hand of the Master Designer—some to sing; some to speak; others to teach, play, recite, testify, witness, pray, read.

But God, let our Family Training Hour not be like solitary flakes of wintry storms and cloudy skies, each doing his own thing. Bring us together on the peaks of Mount Hermon. Let us be snow, not flakes.

Yet, Lord, may we become more than beautiful winter snow, compacted on the mountain peak as a picture for the world to behold. Let the springtime warmth of Your presence melt us to run down like rivers for the desert world to drink.

Thank You, Jesus, for Your promise: "Whatsoever you shall ask in My name, believing, it shall be given unto you."

Amen.

Young people of the Church of God have always been involved in the activities of the local church. They have prayed at the altars, Dear Youth: sung in the choirs, and given public testimonies during worship services.

From our very beginning our church fathers were keenly interested in involving and training the entire family; and at the first General Assembly, which convened in 1906, they voiced their desires to train both the youth and the adults through the Sunday school. Later, the church gave special attention to the need of an organized youth movement when it adopted the Young People's

Through the years most local churches have conducted YPE Endeavor (YPE) in 1929. services. Though the meeting-time was called Young People's Endeavor, often it was a service that, to some degree, involved the whole family; hence, the entire family usually attended.

Local churches began to departmentalize the Young People's Endeavor in the decade of the Fifties. Today's Family Training Hour (FTH) is an outgrowth of the departmentalized YPE.

The FTH concept is satisfying the needs of numerous local churches. Designed to involve the entire family, it inspires and trains every member of the family on an individual level.

This means that you can now attend a study group (a class) geared specifically to your needs. Take advantage of FTH and never miss a session. Learn all you can and "can" all you learn! Then someday you will be able to train your own kids at home, and you will be equipped to teach other youths in Family Training Yours for Family Training Hour, Hour.

me the Buston

Clyne W. Buxton, editor LIGHTED PATHWAY



YOUTH and the Family Training Hour

As a young person, you are a magnetic force in the Family Training Hour program. You draw special interest and consideration. In fact, a large segment of the training and togetherness emphasis is directed to youth. The activities are structured with your "growth" needs in view. And the programs are geared to guide you in leadership experimentation and "soul" expression that builds self-confidence, faith, and Bible-based spirituality.

The key, however, to the Family Training Hour door of fulfillment—in relationship to your life and needs—is involvement. You must become involved by recognizing two foundational factors: (1) your personal responsibility in Family Training Hour activities, and (2) the personal rewards that Family Training Hour involvement provides.

Responsive involvement in Family Training Hour activities requires a basic understanding of the nature and goals of the program. Without being too starchy—because I want you to stay with me in spirit and interest—I want to outline five goals of the Family Training Hour: (1) to motivate a sense of mission—both spiritual and secular—among each member of the family; (2) to mobilize the family for New Testament service and worship; (3) to magnify the importance of God's Word in family life; (4) to maintain a fresh emphasis on the work of the Holy Spirit in directing family affairs; and (5) to minister to family needs and relationships. An understanding of these platform principles, and how they relate to you and your particular age group, will make it possible for you to enjoy the life-shaping fruit of the Family Training Hour.

If you wish to reap the fruit of the Family Training Hour, then you must engage in deliberate action. The general goals of the Family Training Hour must be sifted and transposed into specific goals that relate to you and your family. At this point, identification with the Family Training Hour program and involvement come together. This "coming together" induces action—happy and warm action—and the magnetic force of youth in the Family Training Hour program is both understood and anticipated.

In this issue of the *Lighted Pathway* several articles relating to youth and the Family Training Hour are featured. Read each one of them. Meditate on the message. Identify with the program. And then get involved!

Remember: involvement is the key to the Family Training Hour door of action and fulfillment. \bot

this gulf has been be God's Son, at Calvar

Bill D. Wooten

Witness! Who, me? I scarcely know the meaning of the word!

According to Mr. Webster, a witness is "a person or thing able to give evidence."

Evidence! Of what?

I suppose a witness for Christ must communicate the story of His life and love for mankind.

But I don't know much about Christ or His Word. I would like to witness, but I guess I'll have to confess that I really don't know where to begin. The world is full of communication problems already. There is no need for me to stammer and stutter, and make a miserable flop at something so many people are good at doing.

Why me, anyhow? Do I have to witness?

But how can I?

The most serious communication gap of all times is the one that exists between God and man. The eentral message of God's Word is the good news that

this gulf has been bridged by the Lord Jesus Christ, God's Son, at Calvary. The Apostle Paul wrote to young Timothy in 1 Timothy 2:5, "That God is on one side and all the people on the other side, and Christ Jesus, himself man, is between them to bring them together, by giving his life for all mankind" (*Living Bible*).

Now the task is to make sure that others are aware of this bridge. Twentieth-eentury disciples are ealled upon to see that this message goes into the private worlds of each individual. While it is true that mass communication is of great importance, the Lord's method is to earry the gospel personally to individuals. In this manner, the whole world could be evangelized in a very short time if everyone continued the process!

While your peers at school may not be interested in watching a mass evangelistic effort on television and while, because of too much homework, they may not desire to read God's Word, chances are they

will listen to you.

The Family Training Hour (FTH) presents ways and means by which you can witness. Primarily, it provides a time of learning about Christ and the Bible, giving information that will be very helpful in adventures of witnessing. But possibly of equal importance, it provides an open door to invite friends, neighbors, and associates to this service for the family.

What does the Family Training Hour do? It provides guidance and training that are essential to the spiritual well-being of youth. It is a time for sharing ideas and questions. Questions are aired and hopefully cleared by discussion and

researeh.

The FTH is beneficial also because of the togetherness it provides with other young people, as well as with ehildren and adults in a total family program. It permits youth to practice leadership by accepting

Youth can apply the principles of the Bible only if they know them.

responsibility in planning and directing programs.

The study of Bible subjects, world conditions, and local church services also helps a youth mature in Christ. The interaction of youth groups and the sharing of ideas and thoughts is most beneficial at such an important time in the life of young people.

Of course, youth can only apply the principles of the Bible if they know them, and if they know how. In the lives of happy teen Christians, worship is possibly the most important principle. The Family Training Hour helps youth to understand the meaning of worship and to participate as well.

Does your FTH provide these things mentioned? If not, there is something that you, as a responsible young person, can do. Talk it over with your

pastor. If he is uncertain about any of the areas, he may find ready help through his state Youth and Christian Education Department. Your Family Training Hour should and can be one that you will feel good about inviting your friends to attend.

Are you now convinced about the Family Training Hour yourself? You must be sold on it before you can sell it to others! It doesn't seem so difficult after you have been made aware of the importance of such a service.

One of your basic needs, as well as that of your peers, is to be accepted and to belong to a group. Perhaps your friends would like to belong to your Family Training Hour group! Get involved in the local Family Training Hour program. +



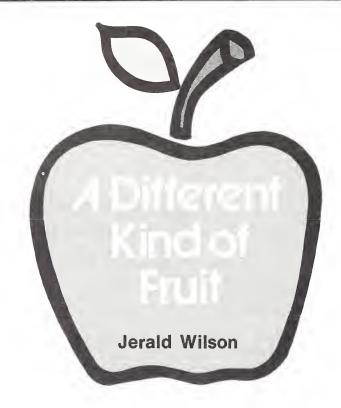
Young people in the Church of God have heard the word *fellow-ship* all of their lives. It's a word we use to mean "close association, togetherness, friendship, and love."

It's common knowledge that to be able to put the word *fellow-ship* into action in church services, we have to be present with other people. The Family Training Hour is one of the main services during a regular week where we can have "fellowship" with other Christian youth.

Fellowship in the church has many benefits; and, to illustrate, please allow me to use a homemade comparison in which I will use the word *fellowship* fairly loosely.

Take a look at an apple that has fallen off a tree. It has lost "fellowship" with the source of its life. Leave the apple on the ground for several days, and it begins to rot.

Likewise, if you stay away from the midweek Family Training Hour, your spiritual "apple" loses "fellowship" with the source of



its life. I do not mean to imply that you begin to rot, but certainly your spiritual character becomes less healthy.

There is a positive aspect also. An apple *on* the tree is hanging on to life itself. Sunshine radiates the energy, and rain provides the necessary water for the roots to manufacture the food the tree needs. These nutrients travel from the roots, up through the trunk, out through the branches and

individually into each apple. The apple becomes a healthy, delicious, mature fruit—all because it has maintained togetherness with the tree.

A young Christian *in* the church is hanging on to life itself. God's love radiates energy through Christ, and the Holy Spirit rains the spiritual blessings on the church. The church takes in these "nutrients" through its spiritual roots. They travel up







through its trunk, out through its branches, and personally into you. You become a healthy, mature Christian, because you have maintained togetherness with the church.

Even though you as a young person may have a vital, dynamic, personal relationship with Christ Himself, you still need the help, direction, and benefits that come from fellowship with other members of the church.

Imagine a week, from one Sunday until the next, full of rubbing shoulders with the world, full of hearing bad language, full of discouragement, full of rebellious schoolmates or coworkers, full of unhappy and empty people, full of criticism from non-Christian teen-agers, and full of looking temptation square in the face. Is it possible to go a whole week through all of this without the fellowship of your Christian friends?

Now think of a week when you attend Family Training Hour. You have the fellowship of other Separation
is like a worm
in the fruit of
Christian fellowship.

Christians. You get that word of encouragement from a senior citizen. You get that pleasant greeting from another teen-ager. You get that uplifting testimony from one who's prayer has been answered. You get that beautiful smile from the pastor's wife. You get that surge of warmth and strength when all the church members lift their voices in praise together. You get that feeling of

complete unity, when in the young people's group session the class members all join in prayer for one specific request. You get that energy from God's love when the young people all sing "To Be Like Jesus." You get that shower of Holy Spirit "rain" when the group leader leads an anointed prayer of dismissal, and no one can leave the room for a few minutes because the Spirit is so real. You get that love right in the middle of the week, just when you need it so badly.

The fruit of fellowship is all of these experiences when you're hanging onto life itself; when you maintain togetherness with the church; and when you have that close association with other youths and older people of like faith who love you, who pray for you, and who help you with your problems.

How can you stay home on Family Training Hour night, when the fruit of fellowship is available? Get involved in the local Family Training Hour program. +





LEADERSHIP NOW!

Anthony Lombard

Urgent attention is being centered on the youth impact in today's society. This influence has redesigned fashions, rewritten textbooks, and refocused attention on the creative potential of youth in the church.

There has never been a time when so many were aware of the influence of youth, both inside and outside the church. Consequently, there has never been so much energy exerted to tap the rich resources of youth and to integrate them into church-life. With the under-25 population so rapidly increasing, there exists an urgent need for youth leadership development in the church.

But where docs leadership

training begin? Where does the church and its youth meet to put in motion this training experience?

There are many programs that share in the process, but Family Training Hour continues to serve as the natural environment to train youth for leadership.

Family Training Hour has built within its structure a concept of "development by doing." It serves as a practical laboratory where principle is transformed into practice; it provides interaction for physical growth and development; it guides in the quest for spiritual maturity; and it provides a fellowship whereby individuals learn acceptance through social encounter.

Thus, a very basic pattern of development, demonstrated in the life of Jesus, is set in motion. "And Jesus increased in wisdom [practical understanding] and stature [physical development], and in favour with God [spiritual maturity] and man [social encounter]" (Luke 2:52).

Practical Understanding

The task of the church is to produce offspring that not only "contend for the faith," but also "communicate the faith." To develop this kind of youth leadership, the Family Training Hour serves as the laboratory where youth grapple with problems, share insights, and forge concepts



LEADERSHIP NOW!

in the heat of involved learning.

In the Family Training Hour opportunity is offered young people for "in-service" training. In a somewhat structured session the sponsor engages the student with personal involvement that produces understanding of both Scripture and life-related subject matter. This might be done by the student analyzing scriptures and giving personal responses.

Be sure that youth are personally involved in the process. This is youth leadership development. Youth learn to develop the ability to judge and choose for themselves on the basis of principles acquired in the Family Training Hour.

Many approaches to involvement may be utilized, with the purpose of engaging students in meaningful action in preparation for larger responsibilities. Youth may serve as committee members, musicians, song leaders, class officers, assistant teachers, choir members, secretaries, and nursery attendants.

Physical Development

To understand the purpose and place of physical activities in relation to Family Training Hour, we must remember that physical interaction involves more than mere muscular coordination. It also engages the emotions. Young leadership must develop the ability to keep cool when emotions reach peak points. This vital ingredient, along with physical dexterity and a sound body, are critical in a society of stress and fast pace.

Christian leadership that is

physically sluggish communicates unconcern about a most important instrument of God—the body. Emphasis on this aspect of Family Training Hour life in no way intimates a de-emphasis from the traditional sharing session; rather, it is encouragement for the inclusion of these activities in the Family Training Hour group. Youth camps, retreats, VBS, Scouting, church league sports, and many other extrachurch activities offer unique opportunities for developing youth leadership physically.

Spiritual Maturity

As an agency of the church, the Family Training Hour is vitally interested in evangelizing and developing its youth spiritually. To do so necessitates bringing youth together in worship experiences. Through creative media, the gospel is presented and spiritual seeds are planted. However, the goal of the Family Training Hour is to lead youth beyond a conversion experience to an appreciation of the Scriptures and their value in daily life; to teach youth to appreciate music and to worship with song; to develop in youth the proper attitudes toward God and

Youth need to feel the vibrations of appreciated involvement.

man; and to equip youth to assume positions of spiritual leader-ship.

Mature youth leadership realizes that Christ desires uncompromising commitment. And spiritual maturity can only be attained as one follows "after Christ" in practical life experiences. The Family Training Hour seeks to unite all of life's experiences, whereby the Spirit can "quicken" us to fruitful service.

These spiritual experiences are enhanced in a variety of Family Training Hour activities. These include devotional moments, creative Bible study, role playing, dialogue, panel discussions, research projects, drama, prayer meetings, and personal fellowship with God in worship.

Social Encounter

Exposure to diverse personalities is healthy for social development. This is achieved in the Family Training Hour as innovative techniques are utilized to bring youth together in group discussions, share sessions, and involvement projects. Social activities directly related to the Family Training Hour allow principles to emerge as life-styles. The value, therefore, of youth planning activities and carrying them out takes on important dimensions.

With sponsor guidance, youth come together; and as they tune in on the group's wavelength, there emerges not only an understanding of, but an appreciation for, individual differences. Young leaders learn that being different does



not mean being unable to love or accept. On the contrary, differences add beauty and variety to life.

As they invest individually in the programming, youth receive a sense of "soul" satisfaction. The need to be a part of the action is satisfied, and the bond between the church and her youth is cemented. Youth need to feel the vibrations of appreciated involvement as they serve in Christ's church. The Church of God has long advanced the idea that we are "saved to serve." It continues not only to accept responsibility for its youth—the natural resource of the church—but to recognize their potential. And Family Training Hour has been instituted as a unique instrument of the church to guide youth in self-development for effective and fruitful service for God. \bot



YOUTH CAMP is being surrounded by a lot of happy faces...



Youth Camp is a good night's Rest...



Youth Camp is learning about nature ...



I Just know the Counselor would like some of this Pretty vine to Help decorate our Cabin.

Youth Camp is MORE of that good Ole Wholesome grub...





WORSHIP—What's that?



Being a Christian doesn't automatically make going to church the most exciting thing in life. Getting your kicks out of going to hear the preacher on Sunday night doesn't come by itself: it must be cultivated. The teen who is not inspired by worship misses much in life; for one thing, life's greatest dimension—communion with God.

Many have tried to define the word *worship*. And yet it seems to be a word without definition. Some see it as the worship-service activity of the congregation and

minister on Sunday morning. Some sec it as communing with nature.

But, just what is worship anyway? Simply stated, it is "a personal meeting with God, giving honor and praise to Him through Jesus Christ." In the Family Training Hour, teens are challenged to worship Him "in spirit and in truth."

Music has always played a great part in worship. Teens of every language and race have found this to be an avenue to convey their praises unto God. Whether it

Wayne Rosson

is in the stately music of historic worship or the unstructured songs of the unlearned, it has carried their heart's message to Him.

Music in the Family Training Hour is directed to honor God. It is simple enough that all may enter into the thought and spirit it expresses.

In the Old Testament the people sang psalms with great dignity as they sacrificed. Men of other cultures use the music of their own lands in worship. The Family Training Hour teaches that music of different types, from choruses to anthems, are proper in praising the Lord.

Prayer also is an important part of the worship service. As priests unto God we offer the petitions of our lives to Him. In the Family Training Hour opportunity is given for both prayer in unison and individual prayer.

Learning to lead in congregational prayer is difficult for some. One should at this time pray for the needs of the group as a whole and those important needs of individuals in the group. The FTH provides young people with guidance in this vital area of soul expression.

What about the offering? It is a bad practice just to give for a certain need. The offering is an act of worship.

Too often teens think that the offering is only for adults, but it has been shown that the pattern learned in youth will determine the procedure followed in adulthood.

Tithing too is as binding on

youth as on any age group. How we give reveals what we think is important in life. If Jesus is important, then giving to Him is important.

In the Family Training Hour the Word is presented in a lessstructured manner than in the other worship services. Even though we are sitting in an informal session, the Word is important. Through the use of panel groups, Bible studies, and workbooks, the Word of God is brought to our attention in a clear style so that it can be related to daily life.

The Family Training Hour also teaches in the field of personal devotions. Personal devotions include Bible reading, the reading of other religious materials, and prayer. Some youths in their private devotions find it helpful to play gospel music on the record player. With this aid they then enter into their devotions.

Prolonged prayer does not come easily. It is learned through daily private prayer. E. M. Bounds, in his book entitled *Power Through Prayer*, states that short prayers owe their power to the long prayers that have preceded them.

To learn to worship is a pressing need in the lives of many youths. The work of the Family Training Hour, by emphasizing the principles of real worship, is helping many to find the fuller dimensions of life.

Young person, get involved in the local Family Training Hour program! +



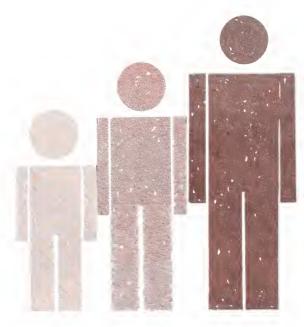
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Christian Maturity

Oliver C. McCane

It happened on a cold morning, February 23, 1945. As chaplain of the Brazilian Division, he was searching for the bodies of soldiers who had fallen and remained buried under the snow in no-man's-land.

Dr. Joas Saren, telling of this experience as a chaplain in World War II, said he found a young sergeant who had grown up in a Sunday school in Rio de Janeiro.

The ice and snow had perfectly preserved the body of the soldier for two months. The surroundings suggested that he had used up all his ammunition. It appeared that, as he was about to advance in his final assault upon his enemy, a missile had pierced his chest.

He did not die immediately but had time to reach into his pocket and to take out his New Testament and Psalms which the chaplain had given him. He was evidently reading the Twenty-third Psalm as his life slowly ebbed away. His head had fallen forward, and his blood had glued the pages to his frozen face. In his dying moment, the Word of God had once again become that precious comfort that never fails.

In Christian living, at least two kinds of people are involved: those who fail and those who succeed

in their Christian commitment. The principle is evident. The gift of salvation is not merely bestowed to us for the purpose of self-indulgence, but rather for the common good of all mankind.

This understanding of salvation calls for Christian maturity. The greatest gift that Christ gives to us is Himself. Christ thus becomes the focal point upon which two eternities evolve: heaven and hell, life and death.

Once we are committed to Christ, the whole fullness of God must become our goal in life. The Family Training Hour program of the Church of God is designed to guide you in commitment and to help you achieve Christian maturity.

Bible Standards or Men's Philosophy—Which?

The Bible does not say that Christians *might be*, but that Christians *are* new persons. It is not just a question as to whether we *should*, but as Christians we *do* possess a character that is holy, a life that is changed.

This building of Christian maturity must not be upon the "wood, hay, stubble" (1 Corinthians 3:12) of men's opinions, but rather upon the "gold, silver, precious stones" of the Bible.

In 1 Peter 2:2, the Holy Spirit declares "as newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the

word, that ye may grow thereby." The study of God's Word is central in the Family Training Hour. It offers a spiritual life for the nourishment of the soul.

Thomas Jefferson said, "I have said and always will say that the studious perusal of the sacred volume will make better citizens, better fathers and better husbands."

Benjamin Franklin advised, "Young men, my advice to you is that you cultivate an acquaintance with the Holy Scriptures."

God's Book is His greatest tool for Christian maturity. The Bible is a spiritual gold mine in which a Christian discovers one inexhaustible vein of treasure after another.

The maturity of a Christian must include the study of the Word. The Bible is quick and living (Hebrews 4:12). The Bible is a sword (Ephesians 6:17). The Bible is a mirror (James 1:23). The Bible is a source of life (1 Peter 1:23). The Bible has a marvelous maturing effect upon those who read it and heed it. One of the prime purposes of the Family Training Hour is to guide youth in Bible study.

Young Christians in the World

Every Christian's role is to live, love, and act as the ambassador of Jesus Christ in a world that is mostly indifferent and uninterested. With witch-craft and Satan worship spreading throughout the world, involving cities and campuses, youth must understand why these are wrong.

In this Age of Aquarius,
quackery is thriving
as a surprising number of
people, young and old,
are fleeing
into superstition and unreality.

No nation of the world has escaped an involvement of these weird rites. The increase in black magic, extrasensory perception, astrology, and fortune-telling is alarming.

The Family Training Hour program involves training that will fortify and strengthen you to withstand these threats from the enemy. "There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death" (Proverbs 14:12). Attend Family Training Hour and be prepared to know the true way that leads to eternal life and happiness.

In the November, 1970, issue, the *Journal of the American Medical Association* said, "The new occult craze—and that is just what it is—has given rise to all manner of flimflam and hocus-pocus with people's health. In this Age of Aquarius, quackery is thriving as a surprising number of people, young and old, are fleeing into superstition and unreality."

Christian maturity will encourage us not to be duped by miracles and phenomenal happenings that are performed through these extrasensory powers of Satan. Young people, Satan is behind the blinding confusion of these perilous times. Family Training Hour attendance will fortify you to stand against him.

The Immortal Soul Does Not Stand Still

Since the soul of man craves spiritual food so that it may grow, it is only normal and right that youth should have a longing to visit a place where that food may be received. The logical place for Christian youth is the Family Training Hour. It's a place where you can become involved in spiritual feeding as well as spiritual eating. You will be taught how to live responsibly by being given responsibility.

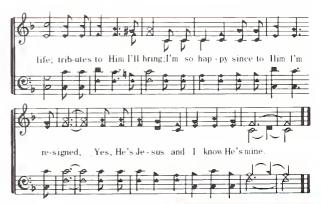
Maturity is not just something that we learn today that we may put into practice tomorrow. No! Christian maturity should be developed and displayed in our everyday living, our everyday conversation, and our everyday involvement. Maturity does not lie in the prize at the end of life, but is a vital part of our everyday accomplishments.

Guiding youth in Christian maturity is the goal of the Family Training Hour. Get involved in the local Family Training Hour program! +

With a Song in My Heart

He's Jesus





Debbie Hollis (17) is from Gnadenhutten, Ohio, and attends the Uhrichsville Church of God where she serves as the youth Sunday school class president, Y.P.E. secretary, and youth choir member. She is a flagbearer in her school band, a school chorus member, an office aide, and a Future Teachers of Amer-



ica aide. Debbie has received three honor roll scholarship awards, five 4-H Club blue ribbon awards, and a Science Fair award.

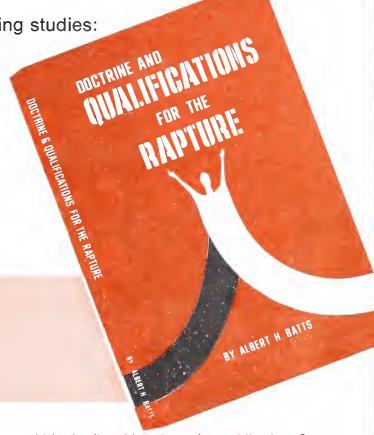
She is a National Honor Society member and is listed in Who's Who Among American High School Students, Outstanding Teen-ager of America, and the Society of Outstanding American High School Students. Her hobbies include sewing, reading, and songwriting. Debbie plans to enter nursing school and train to become a registered nurse.

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and others.

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Over two thousand copies of this book were sold in the first thirty days after publication. Some churches are using the book as a study guide in their Family Training Hour.

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As I sat in a social studies elass not long ago, the teacher was discussing the problems developing in the world today:

- 1. We're facing a food shortage. How will the nations eope with this situation?
- 2. How ean we manage without fuel to heat our homes? The supply of coal isn't going to last forever.
- 3. What about fresh water? The

world has many seas and oeeans, but we need fresh water to drink. We could always take the salt out of seawater and purify it, but that would cost millions of dollars.

- 4. How much longer will our fresh air last? The environment is becoming more polluted every day.
- 5. Our natural resources are dwindling away. The shortage of petroleum is causing a shortage of plasties. (Most plastics are made of petroleum.) Loggers are cleareutting the land, and trees don't just grow overnight! But the world no longer seems to eare.
- 6. The erime rate is climbing higher each year. Many people say there's no way to stop it—it's too late to reform the nations!

These are just a few of the many problems on earth today. Right

now our very existence depends on what the Arab countries do about our supply of fuel. In times past scientists have always come up with a solution for all the world's problems. But now they say that there are no answers to the problems that exist today.

e End of the

I heard a minister make the eomment the other day that when he was a boy and heard it preached about the nations getting into a war over the land around the Dead Sea, he used to look at the map and laugh at the thought of any eountry battling over a stretch of desert. But today scientists have declared that that "stretch of desert" is the most valuable piece of land in the world! The United States can't afford to let Russia get it, and Russia ean't afford to let the United States get it.

The teacher made the comment, "Eventually all of these shortages and problems are going to wipe out the very existence of man."
But, Friend, this is only God

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announcing the return of His Son. Everything is falling in place the way the Bible says it will. The end of the times is here. Jesus is coming soon—maybe in 1974. \bot



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Please pause right now and PRAISE God for youth camp! And let's believe Him for an even greater camping season in 1974.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AND CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



Beyond Self

Karen Bagwell

When I look around me and see the sun, the moon, the stars—all the magnificent handiwork of God—I cannot imagine why He would love someone like me enough to give His very own Son as a living sacrifice. I don't know why Jesus cared. I cannot understand it; but one day I accepted it.

From the bonds of sin He set me free and saved me by His blood. With His power He raised me and gave me that peace that passeth all understanding.

How well I remember! Just knowing that Jesus was mine and I was His filled my life with hope. When I was tired or lonely, I would call on Him; and He was my shelter in the time of storms. In the time of hunger His Word was my food. His blessings were so numerous that I could never doubt His love for me.

Just being a Christian was wonderful! But somehow my life seemed strangely empty—like a tree without fruit, like a song without lyrics.

I had an overwhelming desire for fulfillment. I knew that I could never find the answer by wishing on a bright, faraway star, or by seeking the luck a four-leaf clover is said to bring. I knew that I could never find the answer by achieving fame or gaining wealth. I realized that the only way I could turn was to God—and I did.

My life was changed. Instead of seeing myself and my selfish desires, I saw beyond myself. The picture was impressed upon the screens of my mind never to be removed. I caught a glimpse of the street "where the lonely walk." At last I found a chance for fulfillment. I found my callingdirectly and indirectly—in a wistful, sad smile; in a face tormented with pain; in the tears of a deserted child; and in so many lonely, needy people in dilemmas that are almost dark as a dungeon, where the sun seldom shines.

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I don't ask why—because I know.

For me, discovery didn't come with the sound of the trumpets or the waving of flags. It moved upon me slowly—just as the sun moves out of the West and across the skies: dimly at first, growing stronger, then finally bright. Actually, I never found myself until I looked beyond myself.

My life alone is about as significant as a grain of sand on the beach among a million grains of sand. It is not much, but all that I am and all that I will ever be, I owe to the grace of God. My gratitude to Him is more than I can ever express.

Going beyond ourselves as Christians is simply choosing the best. Let us not be guilty of being satisfied with the good, but let us want the very best. This is only possible when we look beyond ourselves; for it is then—and only then—that we find the perfect will of God. +

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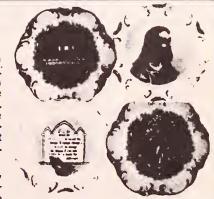
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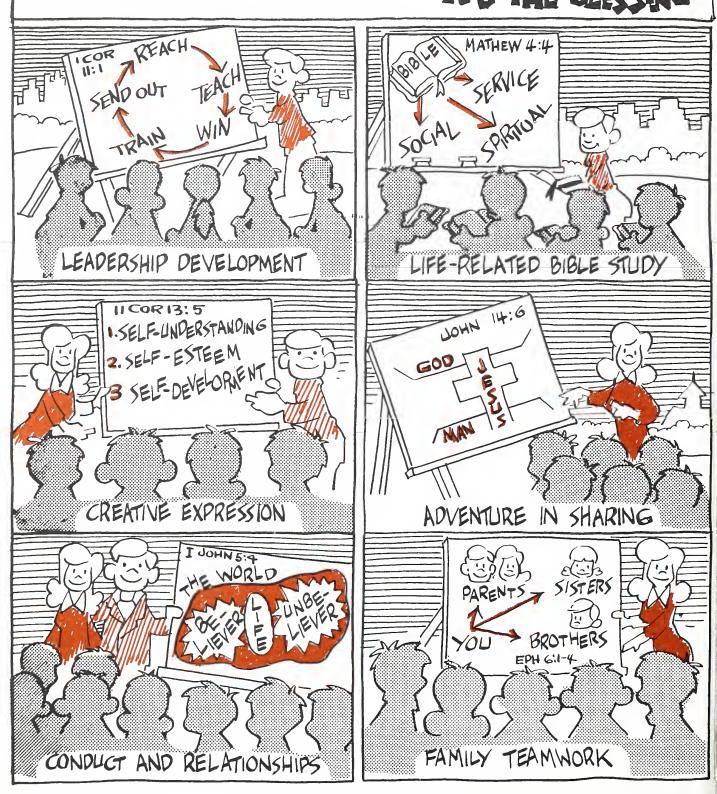


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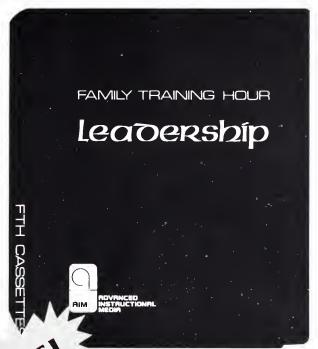
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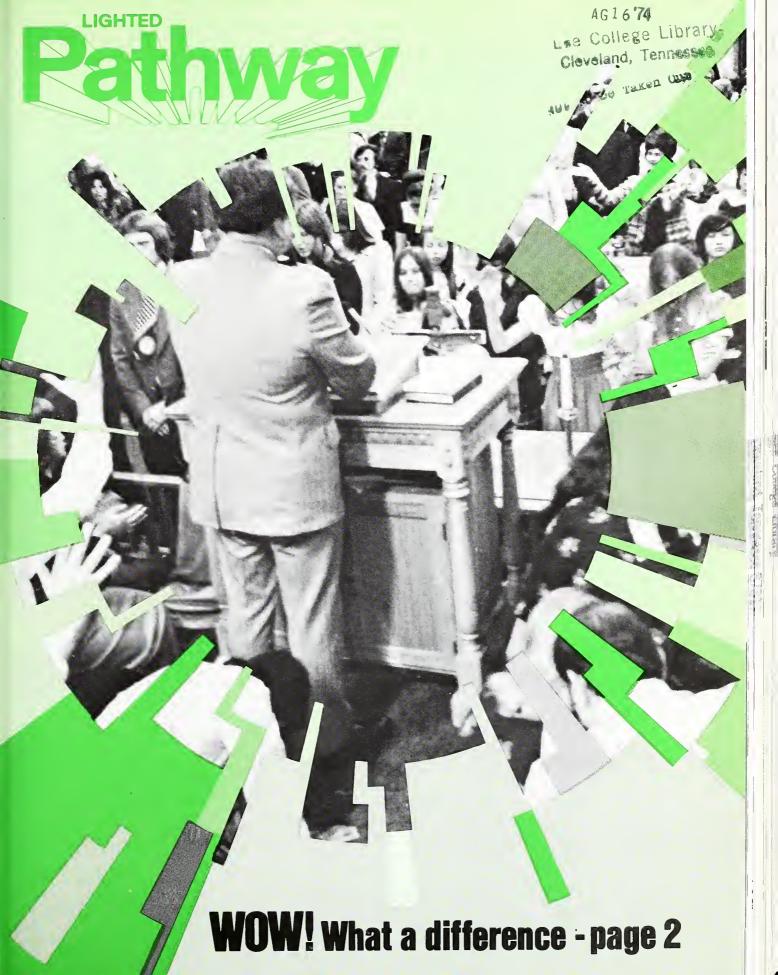
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1964	First full-time President appointed
1966 1966	Completion of Walker Administration Building Admission to American Association of Bible Colleges
1967 1967	Approved by University of North Dakota for transfer of Liberal Arts credits Listed by American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers with an (A) rating
1967	Institutional Student Aid Program Initiated
1968 1968	Completion of President's home on campus Annexation of campus to the city of Minot
1969 1969	Institution of Christian Education degree program Major landscaping of fifteen acre campus
1970 1970 1970	Development of mobile court for married housing on campus Beginning of Publishing House Endowment Contribution Student Center Development
1971	Approval for Federal Student Assistance by Department of Health, Education and Welfare in all student assistance programs
1971	Institution of major in vocal music
1972 1972	Completion of Frank W. Lemon's Hall for men Refurbishing and naming of Ruth Bishop Hall for women
1973 1973	Completion of Student Fountain Project Board authorizes initial planning for library-class structure



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My first Sunday in a Church of God service, I felt inclined not to take too seriously.

Doug, a friend of mine with whom I had graduated from high school, had fleetingly challenged me to go to church with him sometime. Frankly, I wasn't sure whether to take him seriously or not. It was the old "I've heard that one before" routine; for, you see, I considered Doug to be awfully conceited, and I think the feeling was reciprocal. (But I'm not, really; and he is!) Anyway, as it turned out, I did go that night; and I praise the Lord that I did!

We had to go carly because Doug had choir practice. So while he practiced, I sat in the pews (padded, no less). Soon people began coming in. I've attended several different churches in the past few months, but never in my life have I ever met so many spontaneously friendly people.

There I was, a stranger, and these people didn't know me or what I was doing there; yet as they came in, they took the time to introduce themselves and to welcome me to their church. It wasn't as though it were a ritual; it was honest pleasure welling from within. Never before had

VHAT A DIFFERENCE

CHRISTINE CANTER

people gone out of their way to be so friendly to me.

Most other places I'd attended, I knew as many people when I left as I knew before I had gone (with the exception of the pastor). I usually felt like a stranger when I entered a different church and usually felt the same when I left.

But here was a house of God that for some intangible reason seemed so very different. Everyone was so friendly. (My mom had told me when she discovered what church I was going to that night that she hoped I knew what I was in for. She ealled the

Church of God people "holy rollers." I had to laugh at her—I mean, *really!* How corny! I couldn't picture it.)

Then the service began, and what a surprise! The people elapped when they sang some of the hymns; and the hymns weren't only slow and routine, but eatchy and fast. To sing them was more a matter of fun than a thing of duty.

And the entire eongregation was involved in the service. It wasn't just the pastor's service, it was everyone's. Mom was right: the people did say, "Hallelujah"

and "Praise the Lord"; yet, it was so honest and was done in such earnestness that it seemed right and just "neat"!

By this time I was really eurious to see what would come next. This was the most "different" service I'd ever been in, and I could feel myself getting excited and wanting to be involved as much as everyone else seemed to be.

I had made a profession of taking Christ as my Savior—but I had had my doubts and my ups and downs. I didn't feel as

Though Christine was Miss Washington Teen-ager of 1972, she found something at the worship service she had not found in her popularity. Here Governor Dan Evans is congratulating her. Judging was based on scholastic achievements, civic contributions, poise, personality and appearance, and there was no bathing suit or talent competition.



WOW! WHAT A DIFFERENCE

Christine Canter

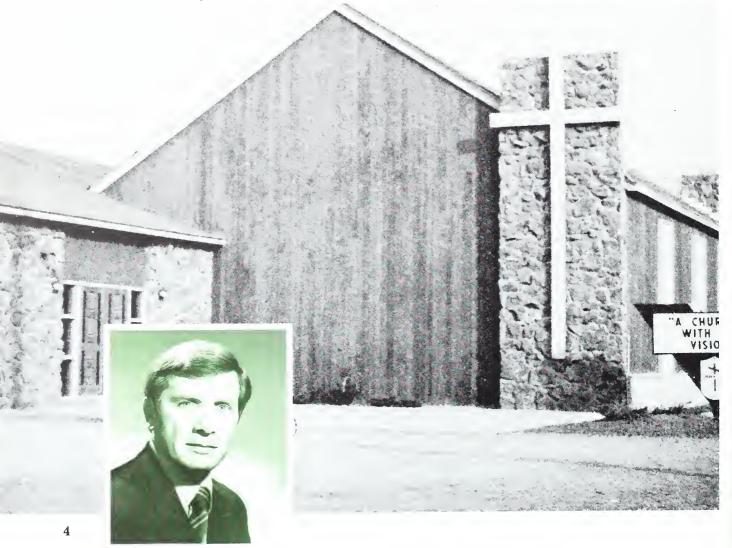
though I had been "reborn" or really had undergone a change. I believed in salvation and Jesus' love; but, for some reason, I just hadn't felt different or special like I thought I would.

Finally the choir marched down and found seats in the congregation, and it was time for the scrmon. By this time I was anxious for and a little leery of what was coming or could be coming next. I was also very much aware that although this church was different from any other I had ever attended, it also seemed to have something special. I could sense it—really, I sort of felt it too—and I was very unsure, I can tell you!

As the pastor began his message, I found myself listening intently. The message was dynamic—so much so that I was frightened—frightened of what I didn't understand and of the open, honest worship of God.

Then something else happened that seemed to really blow the cap off the bottle. I actually heard

This is the Yakima, Washington, Church of God about which Christine writes. Pastor David S. Bishop is shown in the inset.



PRAISE the Sord! Short you so much plan all you've dont. Soday I received some the all you've dont. Soday I received some the Church of God. In so pleased and anyious to begin then. There you so very much, I believe they will be a great kelp and inspiration to ne.

Thirty, have been keelie and somewhat fructialize, I know that patiente in not one of my better writes, and that I much discipline myself to scarn it it suit was always Easy. I've been reading a book entitled "The power of positive praying" Have you read a! somewer realized how megaturely (according to this, paston) no many of his pray. There are times, when i just feel lite I'm not pure if swen ready know how to pray and this book seems to really explain so much, sient where to really explain so much, sient where the turn, something new is learned and discovered its very awesone. The ford thus, does frow the ford was a well as work wonders. Traise be to this same, the ford thus, does frow the soul as well as work wonders. This

and witnessed people speaking in tongues! People were so filled with the Holy Spirit that they were literally speaking another language!

I wasn't sure whether I should crawl under the pew, not move, or make a mad dash for the door. I was really frightened deep down inside—frightened, or else deeply stirred. I don't know how else to express it. And it wasn't the kind of fear that you have for your life, but it was more a fear of the unknown and a deep, mixed excitement.

The reality in the pastor's voice as he breathed and lived the message—along with the urgency and the sincerity as he told of the consequences if we did not accept God into our lives *completely*—arrested me. God actually seemed to be talking through him. It wasn't just a

"rehearsed" sermon: It seemed to be coming from deep within and was almost pleading.

It was really getting to me. I couldn't keep the tears from flowing down my face, no matter how hard I tried. There truly was a God, and He was real: He was not just Someone whom I should believe in. Oh, He was real! I could feel His presence. It seemed to me that the entire church was about to explode, so powerful was the Holy Spirit.

I was really crying by that time. I just couldn't help it. And I realized that I was truly yielding to the Lord. And I wanted to! I wanted to get down on my knees right then and there. I was happy, and a little frightened, and unsure all at the same time.

An altar call was given; the pastor pleaded with each one to

give his life to God, to enter into His divine love, to praise Him openly and freely. I had to go pray; I couldn't refuse any longer.

Marcie (a friend I had met that night who sat by me) started toward the altar, and I was right behind her. People were down on their knees openly praising God, with tears in their eyes. And I, too, recommitted my life to the Lord right then and there among all of His people, in His house. It was truly the most beautiful, enriching, memorable moment in my life.

After it was over; I felt as I had never felt before. A peace and happiness filled my entire being. I can never remember feeling so cleansed, so full of love and life—so very happy. I do praise the Lord for He is so very good—and so very real!



Youth and the Power of Pentecost

FLOYD D. CAREY

Young person, you can experience the impact and the provisions of Pentecost! PFOH (power from on high) is available. It is a gift—a free gift. You receive it by responding personally to the invitation of Christ to be filled and clothed with Holy Ghost power (Luke 24:49).

Before He returned to heaven, Christ admonished a group of over five hundred youth and adults to remain in Jerusalem until they received the promised gift of the Father—the Holy Ghost baptism. Only one hundred and twenty of them, however, responded to His "tarrying" admonition. The Upper-Room outpouring—the infilling of the Spirit—was experienced only by those who believed the promise

and who exercised obedience and discipline in claiming it.

In the Upper Room, the youth "tarried" (waited, worshiped, and watched) with the adults. The young people were different! They did not try to act like the adults, and the adults did not try to act like the young people. But they all loved, understood, and respected each other.

A warm spirit of togetherness prevailed—"They were all with one accord in one place" (Acts 2:1). Therefore, when the Day of Pentecost was fully come (God's time to give the gift of the Spirit), "they were all filled with the Holy Ghost" (Acts 2:4).

They were all filled! The youth were filled in the same manner as the adults. They experienced the "sound from heaven," the "cloven tongues like as of fire," and the speaking with other tongues, "as the Spirit gave them utterance." Because they believed the promise and exercised obedience and discipline, the youth in the Upper Room experienced the same flow as the adults.

You too can experience the impact and the provisions of Pentecost! The conditions for PFOH relate to faith, hope, and love—not age. The promise of the infilling is personal—to you: "The Father . . . shall give you another Comforter" (John 14: 16). "He dwelleth with you, and shall be in you" (John 14: 17). "He will guide you . . . and he will shew you" (John 16:13). "For the promise is unto you, and to your children" (Acts 2:39).

To experience the impact of Pentecost (and to keep on claiming the provisions of Pentecost) you must respond—and keep on responding—to God's call and plan with personal faith, obedience, and discipline.

God gives His power to you, it is a gift, so that you can

convincingly live for Him—both by example and expression. Also, His power enables you to live life at its highest, its richest, and its fullest. "Behold, I give unto you power," pledged Christ in Luke 10:19. Young person, accept this power. Let the power of Pentecost work through you to proclaim, to perceive, and to perform.

Power to Proclaim: "But when the Comforter is come . . . he shall testify [witness] of me [Christ]" (John 15:26). The Holy Spirit is maintaining the cause of Christ in the world today. He witnesses of the work of Christ—proclaims that it was complete and sufficient. He establishes a solid base from which to work. He gives you the credentials and the power to proclaim the gospel story of salvation and peace in Christ. He also enables you to glorify Christ as you proclaim—at school, at work, at home—by guiding you in developing and reflecting Christlike graces. The Spirit prompts you to feel, see, and think like Christ. When you proclaim Christ, with His love and understanding, people take special notice because you speak with authority and your actions support your words.

Power to Perceive: "Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth . . . and he will shew you things to come" (John 16:13). The word all in this verse is the key. The Comforter will guide you into all truth so that you will not come short of the goal. He will guide you into the whole truth: whatever you need to know in order to live a dedicated life and to discharge spiritual duties; whatever you need to know in order to understand the Christian faith and walk; whatever you need to know in order to explain and to defend

the Christian position. "For the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God" (1 Corinthians 2:10). This "Truth" experience will permit you to face the future—and to look into the future—with faith, confidence, insight, and vision.

Power to Perform: "If thou canst believe," Christ said, "all things are possible to him that believeth" (Mark 9:23). As a young person you are searching for answers and security. You want to believe! But there are so many things that cause doubt and anxicty. It is hard to believe! The Spirit was given to prompt you and to undergird you to believe. First, to believe in yourself—to see clearly that

God has a plan for your life and that this plan is important in His kingdom work. Second, to see yourself as succeeding. The Spirit will give you soundness of mind so that you can think clearly and chart a vocational course that will reap fulfillment and success. Third, to see yourself as a unique person. Within each of us is a finer person waiting to be released. The Spirit will show you the beauty of being yourself and will direct you in developing your skills and abilities.

Young person, experience the impact and the provisions of Pentecost. Accept God's gift of power—"they were *all* filled with the Holy Ghost." +



ROBERT B. THOMAS Dean of Students Northwest Bible College

College is an extremely important experience for a young person. In many ways it can be said that four years of college is a miniature life experience.

The basic types of pressure experienced throughout college days are very similar in nature to the experiences encountered in life. Therefore, the patterns established during college days in all likelihood will be the patterns adhered to for the balance of life.

For many young people the day they arrive on a college campus is the first time in their lives they have actually been on their own. From junior-high days throughout high school, young people long for the day when they can say they are their own boss.

Finally that day arrives, and they encounter pressures which they never dreamed really existed. This new measure of independence opens the door for all kinds of enticements and temptations.

The way one acts when he has the liberty to act as he chooses is the test of his character. When all external props and restraints are removed, the real self is revealed. Knowing one is observed, he may conduct himself in proper conformity with convention; unobserved, he may reveal himself as the person he really is.

Power companies that furnish electricity to large department stores sometimes guarantee constant service, or otherwise pay whatever loss is incurred when the power fails. One of the reasons is that when the lights in the store go out, many "respectable" and "conventional" people revert to their true type. This is an example of how people respond when they are unobserved and their true character emerges.

Likewise, during college days young people have the opportunity to test their own values, or to see if they have personal values at all.

When Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation many of the slaves refused to be free. They preferred to continue to serve their master. They did not know how to be free.

Likewise, many criminals, after having served their time, deliberately commit other crimes because they wish to return to the safety and security of prison walls. This is another example of individuals who do not know how to handle freedom.

Among the many possible consequences of the newfound freedom of the collegian is the tendency to drift spiritually. This sinister influence which affects young people in college is often silent and imperceptible. Its movement is so slow and gradual that one is hardly conscious that he is drifting.

It is easy to drift because there are no demands for the output of energy; no effort on our part is required. All that is necessary is to relax, let go, cease struggling, and submit to the forces that are within and around us.

It has been reported that on one occasion a bird was observed floating down the river on a piece of wood in the direction of Niagara Falls. The bird was evidently enjoying the movement of the swift-flowing stream and felt no sense of danger. Why should the bird be afraid? Did he not have wings? Could he not make for the air when the point of danger was reached?

So thought the little bird as he rested free from

carc on the light-tossing piece of wood which bore him down to the dizzy edge where the waters finally plunged over the Falls. When the point of danger was reached, the bird tried to soar, but could not. His feet and wings were frozen to the wood, and consequently he perished.

Is there not a similar danger for young people who drift spiritually? The best security against spiritual drift is an anchor. No young person is adequately equipped to be on his own until he is firmly anchored in Jesus. Jesus alonc can support and stabilize us. A life anchored in Jesus is not likely to drift spiritually.

A further most-frequent temptation to the collegian is the temptation to conform. Peer-group pressure is probably one of the most powerful influences encountered by today's youth. It is difficult to be different because it is so much easier to conform.

Conformity has been defined by some psychologists as "a change in a person's opinions or behavior as a result of real or imagined pressures from another person or a group." Many times the conformist will rely on the behavior of other people as a frame of reference in an ambiguous situation. He is deciding what is right, reasonable, proper, or safe on the basis of what is being done by other people who should know.

It should be observed here that conformity is not necessarily negative. There are situations where it is necessary to conform in order to survive. However, we must also be aware that conformity often is dangerous and negative. There is but one way for the young Christian to find the proper balance between the negative and positive aspects of conformity. In the opinion of this writer, the only way is for the individual to have deep-rooted, strong convictions of his own with regard to ethical behavior.

To assist the collegian in developing this safe position between these two extremes the following suggestions are offered: First, we must have a knowledge of, and conform closely to, the ethical absolutes of the Word of God—that is, know what the Word itself says in no uncertain terms. For example, if the Bible says that we are not to steal, then not to steal is a moral absolute of the Word of God, transcending time and culture.

Second, we should adhere to the strongly implied or inferred regulations of the Word of God. This involves the total context of a particular discourse. The discourse may not be a verbatim report on what is acceptable behavior for a Christian, but the basic principle is derived from the implications of the text.

Third, we should be submissive to the influence of the Holy Spirit. The young person faced with a number of alternatives, lacking a strong sense of direction, should be able to rely upon his conscience, influenced by the Holy Spirit to guide him. When facing ambiguous and unclear situations, this inner voice, if influenced by the Holy Spirit, can be relied upon to guide correctly.

Fourth, in determining a course of action or a type of behavior, we should question how this proposed conduct will affect our Christian influence. Clearly, the Word of God places a responsibility upon every Christian to live in a manner that will bring glory and honor to the name of Christ. Recognition

A great deal of pressure is often put upon youths to conform





of one's responsibility to those who may be observing his life is a very obvious charge placed upon every Christian.

Fifth, and finally, we should ask ourselves how we would feel if death or the coming of the Lord should overtake us in the act. Would we do this if we knew we would die in the process or that Jesus would come before we finished? If our answer is no, chances are we should abstain from the behavior.

One final problem in the area of temptation and doubt which I would like to consider is that of disillusionment. I am convinced that many of the disorders engaged in by many young people today are the result of disillusionment.

To illustrate: Jesus made His first visit to Jerusalem when He was a boy about the age of twelve. This could be referred to as the "age of innocence" through which most of us pass. At this time He appears to have accepted everything at face value, not questioning the honesty and the integrity of anyone.

"I am convinced that many of the disorders engaged in by many young people today are the result of disillusionment."

The second time we see Jesus in Jerusalem could be referred to as the "age of disillusionment." On this visit Jesus encountered the religious leaders in the Temple cheating the people on their currency exchange and overcharging them on the price of their sacrifices. He drove the moneychangers out of the Temple.

Here He realized that the life of every person was not "lily-white" as it had appeared the first time He visited the city. This is a most difficult period for anyone to pass through. Unfortunately, many people never survive this epoch of their lives. How we react and what we do during this period will probably determine our future and mean the difference between productive or non-productive contributions to the world.

The third time Jesus visited the city of Jerusalem He went to Calvary. At this time the Son of God marched straightforward to the cross which He knew was His. The causes of disillusionment which He had observed on His second trip could be changed but would not be changed unless there was an involvement of Himself to bring about that change.

This is the type of reaction today's young people should have to their disillusionments of society when they encounter them. We may react negatively and become a part of the problem, or we may dedicate ourselves to the Lord and become a part of the solution.

Think about it. +

He King at the life of Very

When looking at the life of Jesus and the lives of His disciples, we note that they were all young men—young men to whom the gospel of the kingdom of God would be entrusted. Jesus had many things to say to them, but they were not yet able to bear them. Christ realized His disciples' spiritual inabilities at this time, but He said, "Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth" (John 16:13).

A guide is "one who shows the way, an adviser to those under his direction." If we are to be the disciples ("pupils") of Christ, we must come under the discipline (or "training") of

the Holy Spirit.

In the church today there are many third- and fourth-generation Church of God young people with questions of what is wrong with certain activities that are considered to be worldly. Because they are not saved from a deep life of sin as Paul describes in the first chapter of Romans, curiosity begins its work and the young people begin to look at some of the things of the world. This is partly due to the shelter of the Christian home and church.

Many youth begin to feel that the parent, pastor, or adult sponsors are all trying to force

DAVID MUSHEGAN



their personal convictions on them. The work of these leaders is of great importance, according to the Scriptures. But of greater importance is a complete commitment of one's life to Christ. With a real "commitment encounter" experience comes a desire to be led of the Spirit.

In 1 Corinthians 2:12-14, the Apostle Paul wrote: Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God. Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual. But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

The word *discipline* simply means "the training of the mind, or body, or the moral faculties—a subjection to authority." The greatest time of spiritual development should come at an early age in one's life. For Jesus declared, "Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven" (Matthew 18:3).

It's easy to write about the discipline of the Holy Spirit, but it is something else to let the Spirit actually discipline our everyday life. The Church of God teaches that the New Testament is to be the only rule for government and discipline, and the basic way the Spirit disciplines is through the Word. "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path," the psalmist declared in Psalm 119:105. Again the Bible tells us that through the Word, the Spirit "shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance" (John 14:26).

The world has a saying: "Let your conscience be your guide." Youth cannot let their conscience be their guide until they know the Word. Then, the Spirit—through the Word—will lead them "into all truth"

"into all truth."+

ch fr ta an

SAMUEL D. ADKERSON

In today's world man is surrounded by music. It is heard in doctors' offices, airports, and supermarkets. It is reproduced on records and tape, then heard by millions through the means of radio, television, and quadra-phonic sound systems.

Man is influenced by this deluge of rhythmic sound. It appeals to his emotions; it stirs him to laughter, tranquilizes him into somber serenity, or

gently coerces the tears from his eyes.

This appeal is extensively used by the motion-picture industry to create a mood. An cerie composition may be interspersed with lightning and thunderbolts as the coffin in the castle crypt is opening; or a light, willowy number may be played as Cinderella gracefully ascends the steps of the palace escorted by the prince.

All too often Satan exploits the emotions of man through music. He has used the medium of music to influence the thought patterns, moods, and values of man. Too much of this contemporary sound puts down the supremacy of God; the divinity of Christ; and the sacredness of marriage, sex, and

love.

Through music, Satan has caused man, especially young people, to adopt new values such as trial marriage, communal living, and an overall philosophy of "do your own thing." This is one giant rip-off, and too many young people have fallen victim to this cvil scheme.

Satan has exploited the gullibility of man and changed his thought patterns by leading him away from the very center of life—Jesus Christ—onto tangential journeys relating to drugs, astrology, and mysticism.

All music is not secular or unwholesome. There are many musical compositions that are inspired of the Holy Ghost and are most conducive to the worship of God. The same emotions of man that are negatively influenced by Satan can also be positively used by God as the Holy Spirit moves in one's soul.

Moods are changed as music, anointed by the Spirit, is wafted through the air. (Compare 1 Samuel 16:14-23). One can be grumpy, grouchy, and cantankerous; but, as he hears music performed for the glory of God, his emotions are aroused and he rejoices in praise or weeps in deep gratitude for the bestowal of God's gifts.

God speaks to the hearts of men today through music. Values are changed; the permissive become submissive; the indulgers become abstainers; and

new morality becomes hard-core holiness.

Music was given to man by God as Jubal was chosen to be the "father of all such as handle the harp and organ" (Genesis 4:21). David wrote many songs which are contained in the book of Psalms. Joy (Psalm 63), praise (Psalm 34), and thanksgiving (Psalm 103) are themes woven throughout the writings of David. On the night that the Lord's Supper was instituted, Christ and the disciples "sung an hymn" and "went out into the mount of Olives" (Matthew 26:30). It was, is, and shall always be God's will that man enjoy good, inspiring, wholesome music.

Music should convey to God one's feelings of praise or petition and should serve as a means of

communicating with God.

Emotion is one characteristic that distinguishes man from the animals; it can be exploited by Satan or groomed and channeled for the glory of God. The choice belongs to man. Which will he choose?



GOD says all men are dead (without Jesus).

Come to CHRIST and LIVE!

ABOUT THE LIINKING

"There is no judgment for sins. There is no Hell!"

Would he lie to you?

forgiven. Please come back. Why did you run away? I love you! I miss you! All is Your Father, God Dear Child:

Clinton White, reprinted from the Catacomb Press by permission

culture have nothing to do with it - God wants you as His child - He is proud of the family Ephesians-Letters To Street Christians "For a long time God's plan has been mis-His children. This means that your race and and when they do, they have full rights as right to come to the Father through His Son, simple: All people around the world have a all the powers of the universe to see the of us understand it, and it really is quite being built through Jesus, and He wants anderstood by a lot of people. But some

Campus Evangelism

Church of God - Youth and Christian Education Department

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THINKING ABOUT THE FUTURE

Many young people shun the responsibility of thinking about the future. What's the use? they ask themselves. The whole world can change within a fortnight. The best-laid plans of mice and men so often

go astray. Certainly it is true that a

young man or woman can't map out a career with the slide-rule precision of a few years ago. College, for example, while still a bargain, is no longer seen as the guaranteed route to success Due to technological layoffs, there is presently an unusually high rate of unemployment among Ph.D.'s; and in some professions the young are being told their chances for jobs are better with a bachelor's degree

If this surprises you, then welcome to Alvin Toffler's world of Future Shock. Things are changing—quickly, unexpectedly, and with reversals that may sometimes leave you aghast. Nevertheless, you can't afford to go crashing forward with your eyes closed. You must even make allowances for change

than with the higher-paying, but less plentiful, master's.

Thus, in thinking of your career, start from the broad base. Maybe you would like to be an automobile designer, or an interior decorator, or a journalist, or any one of a thousand career choices; but, all your plans notwithstanding, you will be able to enter such a career only when a specific opening occurs. And job openings aren't controlled by your wishes.

You should decide, though, whether you plan to enter the professional or semiprofessional field; whether or not you have, or can, arrange financing for college; whether or not you have the self-discipline and the deep desire necessary for many years of study prior to payday; and whether you want a career that revolves around people or around things.
These decisions let you

establish some goals; but, at the same time, they leave you with flexibility. Perhaps the second most

important factor in thinking about your future career is that honest look inward. All too often young people let someone else decide for them. Mother, Dad, Aunt Edna, Uncle Bill, or whoever wants you to live or do a certain thing with your life; and you suddenly find yourself wedged in and moving in a direction you don't truthfully desire. Face up to it. Bring the matter into the open You must, sooner or later; and it's far better that you come to grips with the issue now rather than enter college (or graduate) halfheartedly or move robotlike toward certain failure.

Remember this: success in any career will require your interest, your best effort, and your full heart. Anything

Jess spells defeat.
Others love you; others desire to help you; and, if you listen, others can give you some excellent help over the big hurdles—but it is only you who can really decide how to spend your life.
Some questions. What really

pleases you? Do you enjoy the company of others? Can you sit talking, relaxed and at peace with yourself for hours? Or, do people bug you? Does the constant effort to be on your toes, to be at your best, strain your nerves? Does the competitiveness of others make you long for the quiet and peace of your own little nook?

Continue the list. Ask your own questions and supply your own answers. They will help you understand yourself. And understanding yourself puts you ahead in thinking about career

in spite of the lamented 'morals' decay, and in spite of the "degradation and cor-ruption" of the world, you are a fortunate person—fortunate, really, just to be living in an age of such unlimited opportunity. The doors are all about you. Prepare yourself, choose, and push. It has been said, "No opportunity is lost. Someone else always picks up the one you let slip past."

Finally, a word about your spiritual condition. No matter where it is you want to go in life, no matter what your goals, you aren't likely to arrive until you first wrestle with, and subdue, the devil inside you. You are at war—inside. Selfishness, fear, anger, resentment, jealousy, envy, lust, bitterness —these are instruments Satan uses to lead you in the wrong direction. If it were not for God's grace-a grace sus-tained by the prayers of your parents or your friends or your church—you would already be totally snared in the devil's net.

However, humility, happiness, joy, hope, faith, dreams, a desire to do better-these are instruments of righteousness. Declare a truce. Make peace with your heart and with God, and then you will be in shape

to better think of career. How? Pray. Would you believe that there are young people who go to church regularly, who have made a profession of faith, and who consider themselves Christians, but who honestly do not know how to get down on their knees and pray to almighty God? Well, there are!

I was one. Oh, I prayed in church. I prayed before meals and at bedtime. I even prayed when I needed something terribly bad or when I was sick

or worried. And then . . .

Then one day I found myself a private place. I sat down not to pray, actually, but to talk. I wanted to talk to God. I opened my heart; I expressed all my pent-up yearnings; I acknowledged that I wished most of all to know God's will and purpose for my life. And would you believe... peace?
The war ended Decision—full complete, irrevocable decision to go God's way-that tumbled the walls of resistance and that set my feet on a path toward fulfillment and happiness.

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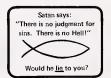
You can find the same. God loves you, always. Very much. And the church loves you. And we know that, if you really desire, you can find your proper place and help us spread the good news of His kingdom all around.

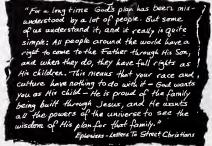
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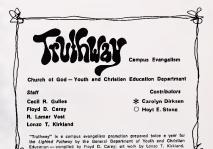




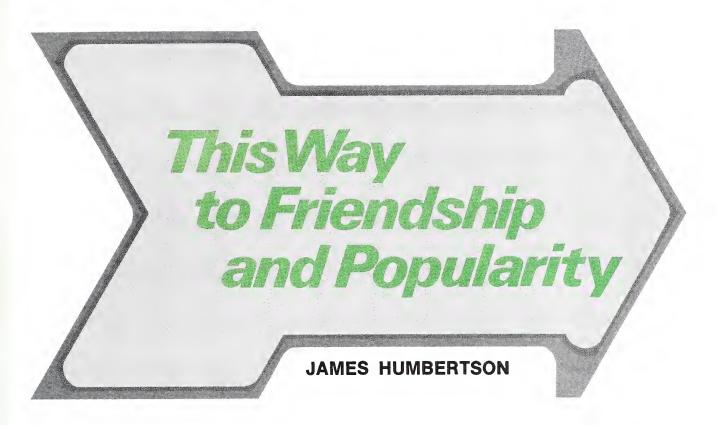












Ours is a strange world—one filled with contrasts and incredible paradoxes. Joy and sorrow, beauty and ugliness, friend and foe, popularity and rejection —they are all here together, and we accept them as a part of living. Conflict? Yes, constantly, we most often find ourselves midway between the two extremes; but our desire is to be on the side of the positive—joy, beauty,

friend, and popularity.

What is the riddle of such contrasts and paradoxes? What makes some persons popular while others enjoy only a mediocre acceptance or are met with rejection? Are there certain innate abilities and charms which are the basis for endless friendships and popularity? Can the Christian young person expect to be popular? These and other similar questions plague the minds of all persons in general, but the teen-ager in particular.

There is nothing wrong with wanting friends—lots of them;

and, indeed, everyone wants to be popular. (Popularity is "the possessing of the confidence and favor of people, or a set of people.") The herd instinct in us automatically responds to the "everybody's doing it" theme. But if you are a Christian, you have a character to build as well as a clientele to gather. High school and college days provide a challenging opportunity to minister rather than meander. Consequently, the Christian must make everything, including friendships and popularity, fit into God's plan for his life. Popularity has a price that must be paid. It also brings responsibilities.

In his book, It's Tough to Be a Teen-ager, Dr. Bob Cook indicates that popularity is based largely on respect—respect for what you are; respect for convictions, abilities, influence, and interest in others and their problems. On the negative side he hastens to point out that popularity is never based on physical appearance alone; and, it never grows out of compromise on moral principles.

Popularity is either a goal or a by-product. If you set popularity as a goal, no matter what it costs, you may become a slave to yourself, to everything, and to everyone around you. But if popularity is achieved as a by-product, you will become master of your life situations and also gain favor with the right crowd. And you will have gained this favor through your effective Christian personality.

A number of personal characteristics are essential for the would-be-popular person; namely, sincerity, friendliness, the ability to engage in a good conversation, kindness, thoughtfulness, the quality of doing your best on anything you encounter, attractiveness in dress, a wholesome spirit, making Christ real in a normal way in your everyday life, dependability, determination, self-discipline, adaptability,



HEADHALID

Who are they?

We all look identical standing shoulder to shoulder in our flowing black gowns,

and now I wonder who they are.

Some of these faces-matched in age and innocence-

I have known since childhood.

They were there on the first dim, terrifying day of school

and there through all the pain and awkwardness and joy of growing up

that brought us to today.

Are they, alter all, total strangers,

or the people whom-in all my lile-I will know best?

I look at them carefully and see my own anxiety, delight, and fear mirrored in their faces.

Are we as identical as we seem?

Have they been shaped and changed by their experiences as I have? And do they tear new lile as much as I?

One by one we leave our rows and stride confidently toward our diplomas, wondering what it means.

Commencement-beginning.

But now it seems so much more profoundly an end.

I have seen these faces every day, and up to now they have made up

the framework of my life;

but when that paper comes into my hand,

all that lamiliarity will dissolve.

Then, will I be alone-less mysell for having lost all of me that I lind reflected in my friends?

Or will I at last be truly me,

Iree to think and act without the conscience of this group?

For an instant, I want to shout for them to stop! It's not too late:

we're still together!

I want us to stop where we are, and let life stay as simple as it was! But my turn comes,

and mindlessly I stride across the stage. I feel the cold parchment

and the warm handshake

I see the smiling faces looking up-

one of them my mother-

and the frozen spot inside my chest begins to thaw.

I have come this lar.

I think with pride.

What new worlds are there for me to conquer?

This stage is small.

These treasured laces lew.

There must be more-much morebeyond-somewhere.

My education has given me freedom and strangeness,

and fear and courage. And now it must teach me to live with these feelings.

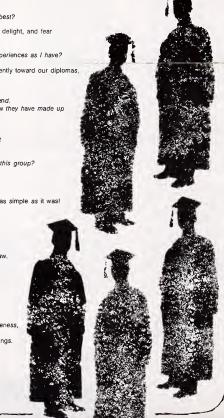
I am different because I have learned; now I am free

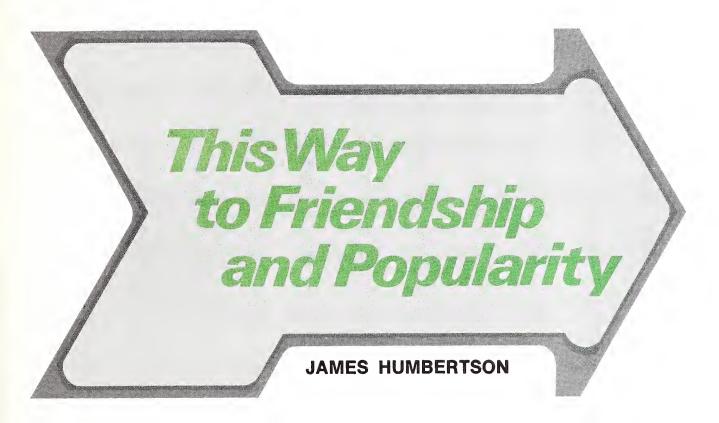
and bound

to use my knowledge-

and I am excited

and afraid. *





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This Way to Friendship and Popularity

and confidence.

While all of the personal characteristics would be expanded to fill a book, suffice it to consider the last four—determination, self-discipline, adaptability, and confidence.

Determination is "the strength to get on with the task when every indication shows it's easier to give up." Steve was a young man with a customized car, some spending money, and good-looking clothes. Although he was criticized by some as "having it made," Steve's friends knew his determination played the greater part in "having it made," because he financed his own clothes and car completely. He managed to hold down after-school and Saturday jobs because he was a determined young man. His services were always in demand.

Self-discipline is "mental or moral training—a subjection to controls." In self-discipline you must control or discipline yourself. Learning to set aside time for study and for accomplishing the most important jobs before taking time for fun is a part of growing up. Your future career, your popularity, and your emotional health will be affected by the way you do (or do not) develop self-discipline.

Adaptability is "the power to modify one's point of view." Being able to adapt to various situations and ideas, even though you know at the time your ideas are unquestionably the best, will not only aid your emotional well being, but it will increase your popularity as well.

Last is *confidence*. Most teenagers have dreams of accomplishments, but too many stand back and view the hard, long road to success, and decide they probably cannot make it; and they give up. Those who achieve their goals believe in themselves. With a positive optimism, they proceed quietly toward their goal.

On the other side of the selfconfident person is the person who is so obviously oversold on himself that he is egotistical. He is the guy who knows it all—the person who parades his knowledge, skills, and connections always goes over with a bang. (Someone dubbed such a person the popped-balloon variety.) He never wins the popularity contest, so he gravitates toward the clique strategy. But always keep in mind that most members of cliques do not enjoy the popularity of the greater group.

Success is the tonic that puts zest into living—the payoff of your efforts. It is the basis for greater accomplishments. For when we succeed at little things, we continue to succeed at bigger ones. Even the smallest success prepares us emotionally for the next goal. The optimistic, warmhearted spirit of the popular fellow or girl is due in part to the well-adjusted emotional life which comes as a result of striving for and achieving success.

The person who has attained friends and popularity, through disciplines and self-adjustments, has a great deal of influence. His peers look to him to serve as a class officer and to be placed in an honorary position. Because so many look to and respect the leader, a great deal of responsibility rests upon that person to make his influence count in a worthwhile manner. A Christian must therefore stand for righteousness inasmuch as the shadow of his influence is cast upon all his associates. On the other hand, the Christian who uses his popularity to bring esteem only to himself, forfeits his opportunity to use a sacred trust for the glory of God.

The Christian must maintain strong convictions and live an exemplary life in word and in deeds. Every day you must put yourself across to others.

When Anita Bryant turned down offers which would have given her money and additional fame, there were those who said she was foolish. But as a Christian she felt that pleasing God was more important than being popular with the wrong crowd. It is clear to see that God has blessed her. Her popularity and influence has not diminished. Best of all, her life glorifies God rather than herself.

There is nothing wrong with wanting to be popular in order that you can have "lots of dates" or successfully attain to class offices. But, if you want popularity so that your influence for Christlike living will be greater; if you honestly seek to put Christ first in all things; and if you work hard at the job of discipline and self improvement—then you can be surrounded by friends. You can be popular! +

Read a page from The New International Version.

MATTHEW 16:15

¹⁵"But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?" 16Simon Peter answered, "You are the Christ,a the Son of the living God.'

¹⁷Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by man, but by my Father in heaven. 18 And I tell you that you are Peter, b and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.c 191 will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." 20Then he warned his disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Christ.a

Jesus Predicts His Death

²¹From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, chief priests and teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life.

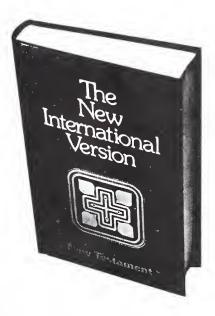
²²Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. "Perish the thought, Lord!" he said. "This shall never happen to you!" ²³Jesus turned and said to Peter, "Out of my sight, Satan!

You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind

the things of God, but the things of men."

²⁴Then Jesus said to his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. 25For whoever wants to save his lifed will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will find it. 26What good will it be for a man if he gains the whole world, yet forfeits his soul?d Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul? ²⁷For the Son of Man is going to come in his Father's glory with his angels, and then he will reward each person according to what he has done. 281 tell you the truth, some who are standing here will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

a16, 20 Or Messiali b18 Peter means rock c 18 Or not prove stronger than it d25, 26 The Greek word means either life or soul



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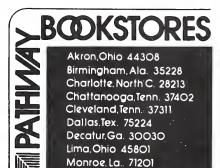
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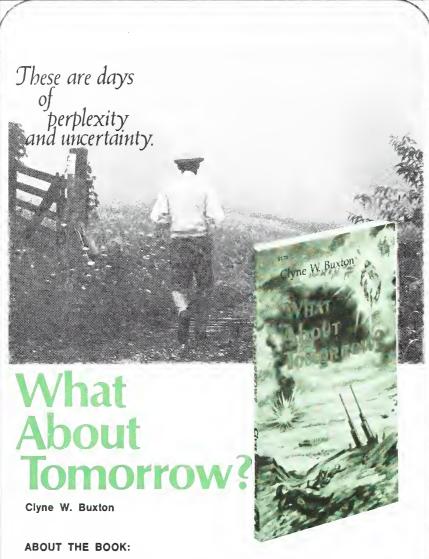
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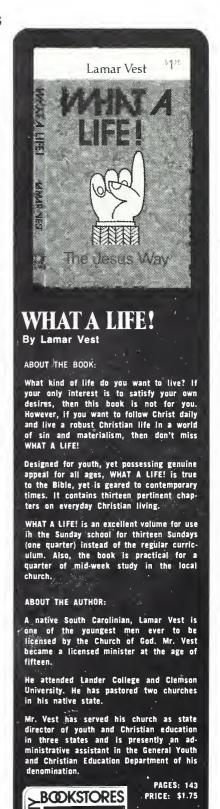
ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

A serious student of eschatology, Clyne W. Buxton has taught on things to come in camp meetings, district meetings, and in local churches. His book released in 1973 entitled EXPECT THESE THINGS also deals with God's plan for the future. It went into its third printing within six months of its release date. For the past twelve years the author has served as editor of the LIGHTED PATHWAY and the director of Sunday school literature for the Church of God. He and his wife, Mary, have one daughter, Clynette, who is married to Larry Pemberton.

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WHAT EVER BECAME OF



GEORGE W. CORNELL

One of America's greatest psychiatrist, Dr. Karl Menninger, says the old religious word *sin* has almost disappeared from modern usage, but it remains a fact of the human condition that must be recognized in order to deal with it.

Hc says the realities of personal "guilt and sin" have been glossed over as only symptoms of emotional illness or environmental conditioning for which the individual isn't considered responsible, but he adds: "There is 'sin' . . . which cannot be subsumed under verbal artifacts such as 'disease,' 'delinquency,' 'deviancy.' There is immorality.

There is unethical behavior. There is wrongdoing."

Growing Fainter

He calls for a reaffirmation of the concept of "sin" and of personal responsibility for it. In a new book published by Hawthrone called *What Ever Became of Sin?* he declares: "If the concept of personal responsibility and answerability for ourselves and for others were to return to common acceptance, hope would return to the world with it."

Menninger, who pioneered psychiatry in this country and who founded the psychiatric center in Topeka, Kansas, that bears his name, says, "The sense of

personal moral responsibility is faint and apparently growing fainter."

Challenging the views of such behavioral scientists as Harvard's B. F. Skinner (who contends that individual acts are always determined by environmental or physical conditions), Menninger cites experimental evidence to the contrary, and declares: "There is always some environmental determination and always some individual determination, and it is improper to exclude either."

Attitude Cited

But he adds that the present popular attitude appears to be that "in the courtroom, everyone is responsible. Elsewhere, almost no one seems to be."

Menninger says that just as it is inadequate for a clergyman to give only pastoral counseling to a schizophrenic, it is inadequate for a psychiatrist to treat a symptom like sleeplessness of a man involved in wicked rascality.

"It does little good to repent a symptom, but it may do great harm not to repent a sin," he says. "Vice versa, it does little good merely to psychoanalyze a sin and sometimes a great harm to ignore a symptom."

Sink to Helplessness

He says recognizing the fact of voluntarily willed sin is "the only hopeful view," since it implies the possibility of repenting and correcting it. He adds, "The logical, reasonable, effective solution for tension reduction in such circumstances is to make atonement, as the theologians call

Advertising

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it, or as we say, by restitution, acknowledgment, and revised tactics."

"The result," he says, "would not be more depression, but less. As the situation now is," he says, "vague, amorphous evil appears all around us," with the presumption that "no one is responsible, no one guilty" and that there is "just nothing to do. Consequently," he adds, "we sink to despairing helplessness."

He cites the traditional list of deadly sins (self-defying pride, lust, gluttony, anger, sloth, envy, greed) and adds some of his own: waste, cheating, lying, cruelty. . . . He says these result from a "wrong attitude . . . an evil heart."

Jargon Employed

"I'm aware that psychological jargon can be employed which relates many of them to peculiarities of conditioning, special inhibitions, interactional incompatibilities and a dozen other technical constructs. I wouldn't dispute these. I just don't think they lead to proper steps for correction."

He says psychoanalysts don't use the word *sin* because of its "strong reproachful quality," but they believe that qualities of aggression and self-destruction are evil because they oppose the life principle.

He suggests the word *hate* as the composite term for *sin* and adds that, in terms of action, the long-term consequences of hate are self-destruction. Thus the wages of sin really are death. (See Romans 6:23.)









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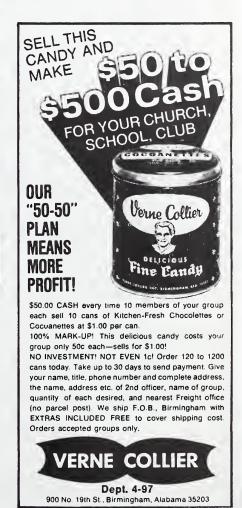
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THERE IS A PRICE TO BE PAID

MRS. NEIGEL L. SCARBOROUGH

The question is asked today, "Who is on the Lord's side?"

The Christian youth is faced with a tremendous responsibility

as the clarion call comes from the Savior: "Go ye into your world [your campus] and give the gospel to every creature." (See Mark 16:15.) Never has so much depended on so few! Attitudes and relationships must be in accordance with the plan and will of God so that we can do the job that God has called us to do.

We are seeing a baptism of smut and nudity on our college campuses today. X-rated movies right out of the slums are being seen in dormitory rooms, lounges, and student centers. What does the Christian collegian do when he is in the lounge and an X-rated movie is being viewed by his friends? He leaves. To remain is to condone sin and destroy your own effectiveness as a witness for Jesus Christ.

What about the latest fad—streaking? On March 6, Associated Press (AP) reported that the fad had led to scattered arrests for indecent exposure. However, authorities generally take a lenient attitude as long as the streakers stay on campus and don't interfere with anyone else.

Records are constantly being sought—New Yorkers streaked a mile and a half accompanied by a sixteen-piece university band and were cheered on by about one thousand supporters. At Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois, about a hundred and twenty male streakers paraded along a four-lane road in the early morning.

An estimated three thousand persons watched as about sixty streakers (male and female) walked naked on the University of Georgia campus at Athens. Citizens in Athens, Georgia, one evening proclaimed, "We've got the record"—after as many as one thousand nude bodies had raced around the campus under

"The student filled with the Spirit of God must dare to raise his voice against the evils of this day."

the peering eyes of about twenty thousand spectators.

What is the attitude of the Christian? Paul advised in 2 Corinthians 6:17: "Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you."

Though you do not streak with them, what about being a spectator—watching the fad? For you the Word says in 1 John 2:16: "For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world."

Certainly no Spirit-filled Christian can watch that which is an abomination in the sight of the Lord and smile about the "fad" that has hit our campuses. The student filled with the Spirit of God must dare to raise his voice against the evils of this day. Nakedness itself is a mark of rebellion and a lack of sensitivity toward sin, which comes from a rebellious generation.

Another problem has touched

our generation: Recently Dave Wilkerson, speaking to a large group of students at Evangel College, Springfield, Missouri, said, "Teen-age drug addiction is not our number-one problem anymore. Neither is the great problem of teen-age outlaws. We have turned the corner."

He continued, "In my crusades I have been getting answers I didn't like. There is spreading like a cancer around the world a hatred toward parents, a spirit of bitterness, a supernatural demon-inspired, out-of-the-pit-of-hell spirit of hatred."

In one of Brother Wilkerson's crusades a teen-age boy took the microphone and screamed, "I hate my parents!"

Dave asked, "How many others hate your parents—not resent or misunderstand but *hate*?"

One-half of the audience raised their hands, saying in effect, "Yes, I hate my parents."

The problem is this: teen-agers and college youth want equal status with their parents. But note that this was the same spirit of rebellion that Satan had when he desired to be like God.

What is the Christian's attitude? God has a chain of command for the home as well as for the church. He is the head of the home, and then comes the father, the mother, and the children—in that order.

Bill Gothard, noted youth leader, says, "A significant concept of God's purpose through His chain of command is seen when we picture the Christian teen-ager as a diamond in the

THERE IS A PRICE TO BE PAID

Mrs. Neigel L. Scarborough

rough. God's purpose, then, is to use parents as His tools, guided by His hands, in chipping away the rough edges of cach life so that the true reflection of Christ can be seen from every angle."

Solomon stated in Proverbs 30:17: "The eye that mocketh at his father, and despiseth to obey his mother, the ravens of the valley shall pick it out, and the young eagles shall eat it." Bill Gothard further maintains, "When a teen-ager reacts against the tools God brings upon his life (parents), he is reacting against God Himself."

What about friendships on campus? It is obvious that the eollegian must often first win others to himself before he can win them to Jesus Christ. A clear conscience is the first essential to building relationships with other people. To quote

Gothard again, he asks:

Have you lied to anyone? One lie which is not confessed can cause a person to mistrust you for the rest of your life. Have you lost your temper with anyone? A rage of anger can cause a deep wound in a friendship. You may have been justified in what you said, but not in the way you said it. Have you damaged the reputation of anyone? Have you engaged in gossip, backbiting, slander, or other activities which have hurt another's reputation? Slander is telling the truth with the intent of hurting another. Have you been ungrateful for what others have done for you? Failing to show appreciation to those who have gone out of their way or made personal sacrifice to help you is certain to offend them. Have you held a bitter spirit toward anyone? Has someone offended you, and instead of forgiving them, have you maintained a bitter spirit toward them? Have you rebelled against the authority of those over you? Has your attitude or have your actions reflected a disrespect for the proper authority of parents, teachers, employers, law officials, or others in authority?

What about the person who has offended you deeply—teacher or student? Bitterness toward them has serious consequences. It can cause serious chemical imbalances. It has been estimated that 90 percent of illness is the result of lack of love. Some germs will not attack the body of onc who

is not bitter.

What should you do then? Look upon the one who has hurt you as God's tool to make you into His image and thank God for each hurt, knowing that it can draw you closer to the side of the dying Savior. If you can help the person who has offended you, do so. Sometimes another's hurt is a trigger signal to us of his needs.

But if you can't help the person, remind him of the fol-

lowing:

God was afraid I might be puffed up by them; so I was given a physical condition which has been a thorn in my

flesh, a messenger from Satan to hurt and bother me, and prick my pride. Three different times I begged God to make me well again. Each time he said, "No. . . . My power shows up best in weak people." Now I am glad to boast about how weak I am; I am glad to be a living demonstration of Christ's power, instead of showing off my own power and abilities. . . . 1 am quite happy about "the thorn," and about insults and hardships, persecutions and difficulties (2 Corinthians 12:7-10; Living Bible).

On campus, Christian youth often make the sad mistake of not developing deep friendships with other Christians. Lawrence P. Fitzgerald in 100 Talks to Teen-Agers illustrates the story

"Christian youth . . . must...bring glory to our Lord."

of an old man who was dying. He called his four sons to him and asked for eight big sticks.

First, he took the four sticks in his hand and spoke slowly. "You see, I have here four sticks. Let these be you, my four sons. I can break them one at a time and they break easily." Then he broke them one by one.

He continued, "So it is with

Desk of the Editor

you, if you stand alone and go your own way without regard to the other—if you do not stand together."

The old man dropped the broken sticks. He picked up the other four sticks, held them together, but could not break them.

Then, just before he died, he said, "You see how it is. When you stand together, you have strength. You are not easily broken. Let not jealousy, ill-will, misunderstanding, anything, break you apart. When things do not go your way, overlook it; for it is little after all. See that the family is strong." When Christian eollegians stand together, strength is gained to overeome all battles.

Often our Chureh of God youth are placed in positions of responsibility on eollege newspapers, radio stations, and the like. The publie medium makes a farreaching impression. For instance, The National Observer, December 8, 1973, reported: "At first individual streakers appeared on just one or two eampuses, and then the praetiee swept the eountry." First it was small, then by glamorization of the press, it swept the eountry. The press can eneourage and contribute by the attitude of their reporting. Christian youth in positions of influence must use their God-given places and talents to bring glory to our Lord.

Though problems on the secular eampus zoom larger than ever, remember: "Greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world" (1 John 4:4).

An article entitled, "What Ever Became of Sin?" appears on page 22 and is worthy of discussion. Concerning comments by a leading psychiatrist about sin, the article infers that the chief cause of people's problems today is their disrespect for God's laws.

Most churchgoing youth know this already, but it is good for us to be reminded of the fact. Menninger, the psychiatrist, lays it on the line for all of us when he says: "There is 'sin'... which cannot be subsumed under verbal artifacts such as 'disease,' 'delinquency,' 'deviancy.' There is immorality. There is unethical behavior. There is wrongdoing."

This renowned psychiatrist gets down to a basic truth of the Bible when he says, 'It does little good to repent a symptom, but it may do great harm not to repent a sin.' His statement would have been nearer the truth if he had said the lack of repentance would--not may--do great harm.

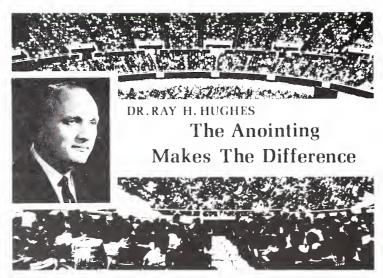
Jesus said, "Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish" (Luke 13:3); and on another occasion He proclaimed, "For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost" (Luke 19:10). Christ came to save sinners. Hence, Menninger is touching on the very problem which Christ came to earth to solve.

Though our Lord came to take away sin, if people, including youth, do not accept Him, then they must sin. Christ is the only cure.

Thank God, we do not have to be sinners. Instead, we can repent and turn to the Lord, letting Him cover our sins. Then when someone asks, "What Ever Became of Sin?" we can answer, "As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us" (Psalm 103:12).

--Clyne W. Buxton

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YOUNG PEOPLE OF GERMANY MAKE MUSIC FOR YWEA

By SANDRA SPARKS

"Gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble—every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. If any man's work abide—"

If any man's work abide: I turned to see the voice that spoke with me. The fountain, the muddy street, the people with their politely surprised faces, all this I saw, but saw nothing else. The blinding flash had come and gone; the ordinary was all about us. We went on. I said nothing to anyone, but I knew that something had happened that had changed life's values.

Nothing could ever matter again but the things that were eternal.

—Amy Carmichael



The German choir traveled to many sections of the United States blessing both youth and adults with their singing.

hen a young person's values have been as abruptly altered as Amy Carmichael described in her book *Gold Cord*, something infinitely precious happens to life. No longer is an individual dedicated to himself or his own private goals, but rather to Jesus and how he might please only Him.

Among The Happy Travelers—the German choir that toured the States recently—it was this consecration to Christ that was most memorable. They sang, yes; but they sang of Him whom they had learned to love. Whether the words were given forth in German or English, the language made no difference. The Spirit of God was manifest in their anthems of praise.

What kind of people are these young Germans? Generally speaking, these are second-generation Church of God young people who are talented, educated, and self-reliant. Had they preferred, many no doubt could have been noted professionals in the secular world. (Even now, of the twenty-five

choir members, there are four secretaries, two draftsmen, one bank teller, one nurse, a qualified pharmacist, two mechanics, a cabinet maker, an apprentice electrician, an electrical engineer, and several building contractors. Moreover, six of the group are PK's: preacher's kids.) For the most part, these are young people who at great personal sacrifice have gone into the full-time Christian ministry.

One who has given much is the German youth director, Egon Wachter. Egon was a successful businessman in the construction field for many years, and serving in a part-time capacity in Krehwinkel. Today away from the hustle and bustle of the business world, he and his wife Edith supervise the Church of God youth home, where for thirteen weeks each year youth camps are conducted in this homeport of the Church of God in Germany. They also conduct retreats and "Bible weeks" for the elderly.

Another who has made a full-time commitment is







Whether eating, doing a telecast, or just having fellowship, the German youths were well received.

August Wagner. August had built a nice home for his wife and two children and was well-established in his business when the Lord began to deal with his heart about the European Bible School (this year's YWEA project). August and his wife have chosen to give it all up to become houseparents for the school's dorm and to live in a small attic apartment. When he begins his tenure this fall, August will also serve as maintenance man.

Gerhard Hofmeister, the choir director, has also given generously of his time and talents. Today Gerhard pastors two churches (forty-five miles apart); works in a bank eight hours a day; and directs two choirs—one, the 70-voice Maranatha Choir, to which most of the German choir members belong. Gerhard also plays several instruments: piano, accordion, and organ.

Karl Kunkel, another choir member, learned early that there is more to life than the things we see and touch. A German, Karl was reared in Poland, but had to flee during World War II. Later, in Germany, Karl became a Christian; and now, with his wife Hanne, he is pastoring a church in Schwenningen, "the watch and clock city," which is located in the Black Forest.

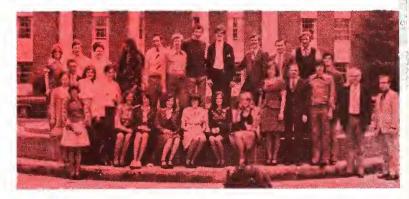
Young ladies in the choir make their own unique contribution. Several are the wives of Germany's young pastors (four of the choir members are ministers). Two others are Gisela and Beatie Gehring, who hail from a family of ten girls (no boys). Beatie is a secretary and Gisela is training to be a draftsman.

Another is the youngest choir member, sixteenyear-old Cornelia Lutze. For the past two summers, Cornelia—who has been singing since she was ten and who plays a guitar—has been used of the Lord singing in street services in Stuttgart. Presently Cornelia is studying to be a draftsman (many young people in Germany finish secondary school at the age of fifteen or sixteen and then go to a technical school).

All in all, personal sacrifice and dedication to Christ are not uncommon among this extraordinary group of young people. But perhaps the most momentous sacrifice of all has been that made by







The Church of God Publishing House and Lee College entertained the choir for a few hours.

YOUNG PEOPLE OF GERMANY MAKE MUSIC FOR YWEA

Continued

the choir as a whole.

The German choir was put together as a temporary entity just for the YWEA tour. Gerhard Hofmeister began practicing with the group in November; and, giving him their full support, the young people willingly prayed, practiced, and persevered—some members driving as far as a hundred kilometers (sixty miles) for a practice session. They also agreed to raise their own travel expense (about \$400 a person) and to substitute the time in place of their annual vacation.

With the young people having this kind of "go ye"

spirit, it was no surprise that the enemy would try to thwart their efforts.

One young pastor and his wife suffered an automobile accident early in the year, and it was feared they would be unable to make the trip. But the Lord granted them a beautiful recovery, so that they too were physically able not only to make the journey, but to raise the money for their fare.

Another young man, Gunther Wagner (August's brother), had a car wreck the evening before the choir was to leave Luxembourg on March 8. His car was "totaled"; but, because of God's protecting hand, Gunther walked away unharmed.

The result?

Along the Eastern Seaboard of the United States, all the way from New York to Florida, wherever they traveled, the choir was warmly received. Setbacks before and during the tour were as nothing compared to the wonderful way in which God blessed and anointed their ministry in song.

Early in the tour, even when the choir experienced a major heartbreak (someone broke into the church which they were visiting and stole some of their instruments), they felt the comfort of the Holy Spirit. By the time they reached the Church of God General Headquarters in Cleveland, Tennessee, God had provided new instruments. The instruments which were donated were even better than the ones that had been stolen.

Pcter Bischoff, the son of a pioncer minister in Germany, was one of the burglarized victims. In addition to his guitar, Peter lost \$90, which had been tucked away in his case. But, again, the Lord gave evidence of His personal care; and Peter was reimbursed several times over during his travels.

Yes—despite the flu, physical exhaustion, cultural shock, and all the keyed-up excitement—God was with them. And that was the all-inclusive element to their glowing success.

The "ordinary" was all about them, as Amy Carmichael would say, but "something had happened that had changed life's values." That something they shared with us in song. Thank God they did . . . we shall never forget them! +



In this age of luxury, electronic computers, and ungodly living, we are living in what many call the modern generation, or the "now" generation.

We have come from dirt-floor log cabins to wall-to-wall carpeted brick homes; from Model T Fords to beautiful luxurious limousines; from the Wright brothers' glider to 747 jets and spaceships that have made it possible for man to walk on the surface of the moon; from bibbed overalls and flannel shirts to wide ties, knit shirts, suits and matching shoes.

Yes, it seems we have come a long way, but in all of man's endeavors to improve on living, one thing has never changed.

The writer in Hebrews 13:8 said, "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever." The psalmist wrote, "Of old hast thou laid the foundation of the earth: and the heavens are the work of thy hands. . . . But thou art the same, and thy years shall have no end" (Psalm 102:25-27). One of the minor prophets also said, "For I am the Lord, I change not" (Malachi 3:6).

If this generation is so modern, why have the people left God out of the picture? After all, He is the most modern of all. He hung the stars in the sky, separated the day from the night, and set the universe in motion. He made man a living soul; He gave His Son as

A Modern God for a Modern Generation

By DANNY P. BRUMFIELD

a ransom for this world; and He told us in the Bible just what the future holds for us. How much more modern can one get than to be able to foresee the future and enable men to write about it?

Consider Moses in his meekness, Abraham in his faithfulness, Methuselah in his 969 years of age, Noah in his grace, Daniel in

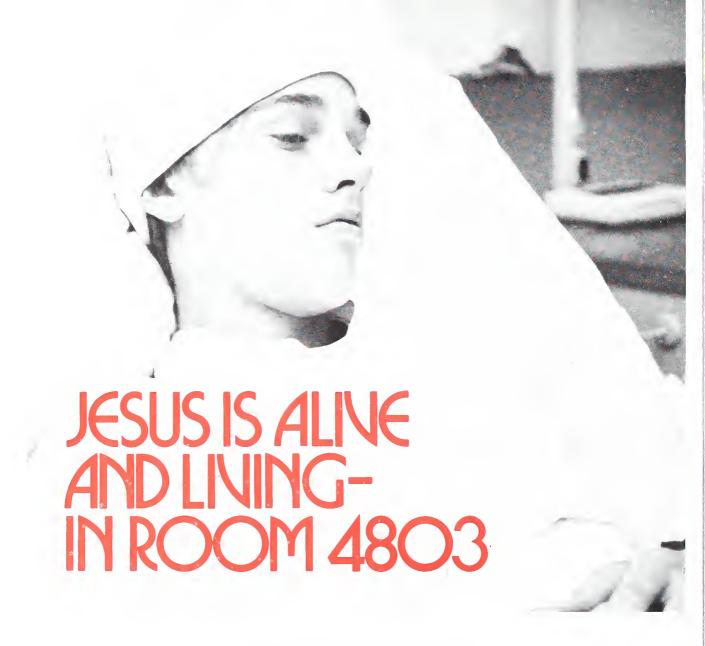
his dedication, Elijah in his power, Isaiah in his prophecies, Saul in his stature, David in his beauty, Solomon in his wisdom, Peter in his boldness, Paul in his letters, John in his vision on Isle of Patmos. Of all these men, none died for us; none of them could say, "I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee." None could say, "With every temptation I will make a way to escape." (Compare 1 Corinthians 10:13.) God is unique; He is supreme; He is gracious.

According to 2 Peter 3:8, God is so modern that being with Him for a thousand years will be as though it were one day. What device or recreation or worldly pleasure have we in this so-called modern world that, after spending a thousand years with it, it would seem but one day.

The world is in a tumult; our government is in an uproar; people are taking their own lives; children are becoming addicted to dope. Yet, we call this the mod generation.

Revelation 1:8 tells us, "I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty."

If this generation is to continue as a modern generation, it should get a modern God; for, after all, this modern God holds the future in His hands. +



By STEVE ALABASCO III

bent eloser to my sixthgrade math book, my nose now barely an ineh off the page. But still the numbers were blurred, closely spaced, and running together. The mathematical signs $(+, -, x, \div \text{ and } =)$ were even harder to see.

I moved my desk lamp eloser, trying to throw some much needed light on the page; but the added light was not nearly enough.

Frustration bubbled up inside

of me, "It's easy math," I said to myself, "it's not supposed to be hard! I just must be dumb, that's all."

Picking up my book and tablet, I moved to the living room to work. Outside, it was a bright fall day. The sun poured in through the big pieture window, spilling a yellow patch on the earpet. There must be enough light here, I thought; there has to be!

I spread the materials on the

floor and laid down on my stomach. As I started to work, the spots came out. The "spots" were dirtlike particles that floated around inside my eye and seemed to concentrate wherever I focused.

"Steve! Get out of the living room and get busy with your sehoolwork!"

Mother had eome in through the front door and had seen me lying on the rug. She hadn't seen the sehool book in front of me, though; her vision was blocked by the sofa.

"I am studying, Mom," I said.
"I need the light down here."

Lately my mother had been afraid that something was wrong with me. I had been walking strangely, with head erect and eyes cast downward. I had always been a bit awkward, for I had not been able to see out of my left eye since birth. Mother thought perhaps something could have gone wrong with the other eye.

We talked that night about what was bothering me. Dad suggested that I go to our family optometrist. We went to see him the next day, and he diagnosed my problem as a detached retina. He said that I needed an operation and recommended that I see a specialist in a nearby town. My parents took me to the specialist. He agreed that an immediate operation was in order, for I had a partial detachment of the retina which could leave me blind unless a "buckle" was surgically implanted.

I returned home—scared. My tonsils had been removed when I was very young, but I had never had a *real* operation. And I feared that this one might not work.

My parents and I talked about it, and they explained what the doctor had said. I was to be admitted to the hospital the next day, and would have to stay about a week. The doctor would put a "buckle" in my eye to keep the retina from pulling away anymore.

"You know," said Mom, "there's really no need to worry: God's on

"I have learned, with God's help, to see more than what my eyes can see."

vour side."

"If you want to talk to the Reverend Mr. Adamson, we can go to see him," Dad said. And we did.

Dad called Pastor Adamson, and we met him at the church for a picnic-type lunch which Mom brought along. Our preacher told me that he had had an operation once, too.

"Your doctor knows his job real well, Steve; and God certainly knows His. He'll be right there in the operating room with you, comforting you and guiding the doctors.

When I left, I was still afraid, but not nearly so much as I had been before. Pastor Adamson's words of encouragement had helped.

I was a "regular" at Sunday school; and we had been told about God's great love, help, and guidance. I had read in the Bible and in Bible stories how God's Son, Jesus, had healed blind men, as well as those who were crippled, both physically and spiritually.

I knew that God could perform a miracle for me. And He did! The operation was a success—praise the Lord! Afterwards, besides having an occasional headache, I felt pretty good.

I was not able to see anything for the first few days because I had to wear a patch over my eye. However, the moment finally came when the patch was removed and replaced by eyeglasses. These had been taped over, though, except for a tiny hole in the middle which the doctor called a "pinhole." But after being without sight for three days, that much light was like seeing out a picture window!

Visitors? I had lots of them—including a man from my church, an elder, who brought a book for me to read. The book, which I still have, was entitled "Men Called Him Master." It was a book about Jesus' eternal life.

With my "pinhole" I could see Continued on page 21 A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR

Molded

By ORVILLE HAGAN

Youth and Christian Education Director, Pennsylvania

once heard a superintendent of schools say to a group of high-school students, "The more adjusted you are, the happier you'll be." Well, I know what he meant —he wanted them to learn how to get along with their friends.

This is important! But there is a danger in this philosophy, too. We may conform too much! We may let those whose standards are low determine our dress, our morals, our thinking, our living! And that would be wrong.

The Bible says: "And be not conformed to this world: but be ve transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ve may prove what is that good and acceptable, and perfect, will of God" (Romans 12:2). The Living Bible reads: "Don't copy the behavior

and customs of this world, but be a new and different person with a fresh newness in all you do and think. Then you will learn from your own experience how his ways will really satisfy you." The New English Bible reads: "Adapt yourselves no longer to the pattern of this present world, but let your minds be remade and your whole nature thus transformed. Then you will be able to discern the will of God, and to know what is good, acceptable, and perfect."

Much of the world is godless, anti-Christian, sinful. Let us not be molded like it! But let us be transformed-"made different"by the power of God!

There ought always to be a place for the individual to rebel, to be different, to state his convic-

tions, and to stand for them! So many teenagers merely follow the crowd that it is a pleasure to meet someone who is refreshingly different.

How adjusted should a Christian be to today's world in relation to dress, fashion, and moral code? Church of God young people must lead the way to godly living and set the pace for others to follow.

Today, about seven thousand youngsters became teenagers. They became part of the mushrooming vouth population that has had no equal in our nation's history. Consider these recent figures given by the Population Reference Bureau:

- One out of every two persons in America is twentyfive years old or under.
- Approximately 22.5 million of all the youth in our nation are teenagers.
- If the present birth rate continues, by 2065 every other American will be a teenager.

In light of these facts, it becomes obvious that Christ is counting on youth to "let their light shine." Only when we dare to be different and refuse to conform to the standards of the world, can we become the influence that Christ would have us to be.

Following the crowd may not only be wrong, it can be very monotonous. However, following Christ gives purpose and fulfillment to life. How much better it is to be happy in a great cause than to go along with the crowd! am just too busy!" And who is not? We are all running to and fro—busily doing this and that. But, what are we accomplishing? I do not think there is a more familiar phrase in the Christian world than this—I am just too busy. But, have you ever stopped to consider just what you are accomplishing? What, of eternal value, are you accomplishing?

The Apostle Paul, in writing to Titus, told him that one of the marks of a Christian is that he is zealous of good works (Titus 2:4). The word *zealous* implies "being busy." But is our busyness channeled into the category of good works? Or are all of our busy activities involved with nothing but promoting our own little worlds of making gain, seeking pleasures—and, in general, promoting self?

In the last week of Jesus' life, He trudged along the road leading to Jerusalem. He was coming from Bethany where He was spending the nights of His last week with His friend Lazarus. As He trudged along the road He saw a fig tree waving its leaves and promising food to weary passersby. With expectancy He and His disciples quickened their steps. The nearer they came to the tree they could see that the leaves were all the more beautiful. All indications were that it would have fruit that would help them along their way. But, alas, upon a close examination of the tree, they found that it had beautiful leaves —but no fruit. All its energy was

being used to produce the beautiful leaves that decorated its branches, but it offered no fruit. How disappointed Jesus and His disciples must have been! Expecting fruit, they received nothing. Jesus cursed the tree! It stood as a mockery to passersby. It was just a "leaf" tree.

Do we have "leaf" Christians today? Do we have those who wave their leaves of pretension while they produce only what benefits themselves? The weary traveler passes by them, he hears their professions and sees their "leaves"—but he goes on his way, having received nothing but empty words. "If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food, And one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ve warmed and filled; notwithstanding ve give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit?" (James 2:15, 16).

Are you a "leaf" Christian?

leak

By GERALD L. HOLLOWAY



YOUTH AT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

By FLOYD D. CAREY

Assistant General Director of Youth and Christian Education

he following "Appreciation Resolution" was passed by the adults and youth at the 1972 General Assembly in Dallas, Texas:

WHEREAS this Fifty-fourth General Assembly of the Church of God has been characterized by the presence of the Holy Ghost, by the efficiency of spiritual leadership, by the strength of anointed preaching, and by the response of devout participation

BE IT RESOLVED that we express praise to God for the work of the Holy Spirit, that we extend sincere appreciation to the officials for their splendid direction; with particular appreciation to Dr. Ray H. Hughes, General Overseer; that we offer commendation to the speakers for excellently prepared messages; and that we congratulate the delegates for their diligent response to the Assembly activities.

This resolution depicts the spirit and the flare that has characterized General Assembly activities since 1906. Every two years Church of God people, both young and old from around the world, come together for a time of spiritual enrichment and to consider the global evangelism and nurturing task of the church.

The General Assembly is a happy time! People who embrace the same cause—and who love each other with an unworldly love —meet together for an entire week. Everywhere you look, people are enjoying each other and sharing good tidings of spiritual blessings. There are also many exciting activities: Teen Talent competition, luncheons, group meetings, action rallies, banquets, special programs, and worship services. Young people of the Church of God are a vibrant part of all these events.

The General Assembly, more than anything else, is a time to consider the business of the church—God's business. This business

includes the young people of the church as well as the adults. The state of the church address is given by the General Overseer. Plans and programs to evangelize and nurture with expanded faith and vision are outlined and discussed. If these plans and programs are to have an impact on every agegroup of the church, you must be aware of them, crusade for them, and provide leadership in accomplishing them.

By attending General Council and General Assembly business sessions and by staying abreast of General Assembly business transactions, you can contribute to the advancement of God's cause in a time when the fields are white and ready for harvest. The "Involvement Flow Chart" on pages 14 and 15 will give you an overview of the functions of the Fifty-Fifth General Assembly that will convene in Dallas, Texas, August 6-12, 1974. The facts given in the next three paragraphs will help you to follow the action on the chart and to understand the

nature and authority of the General Assembly.

General Assembly: The General Assembly of the Church of God is that organized body with full power and authority to designate the teaching, government, principles, and practices of all the local churches composing said Assembly. It meets biennially to consider the recommendations from the General Council. The sessions are moderated by the General Overseer. The voting constituency of the General Assembly is composed of all male members

and ministers of the Church of God. The General Assembly also elects the general officials.

General Council: The General Council, meeting at fixed hours during the Assembly, considers and prepares recommendations in matters pertaining to the welfare of the church. These recommendations are presented to the General Assembly for final disposition. The voting ranks of the General Council is composed of all ordained ministers. Licensed ministers, exhorters, and laity may sit in the General Council; but they

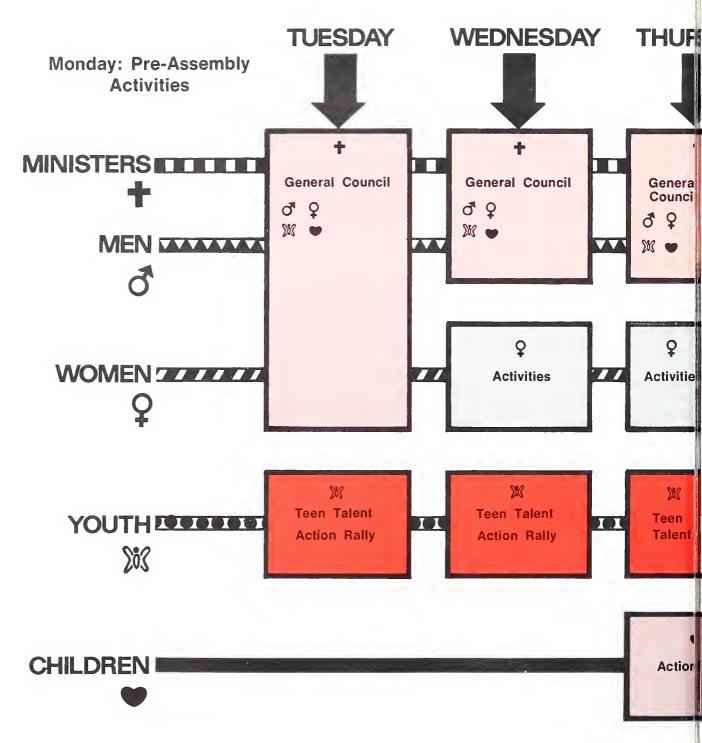
do not have voting privileges. The General Council elects the Executive Council. They also nominate the general officials.

Executive Council: Semiannually, at a time fixed by the General Overseer, the Executive Council meets and adopts recommendations to be brought before the General Council and the General Assembly. In between Assembly periods, the Executive Council considers and acts upon all matters pertaining to the general interest and welfare of the Church of God. +



YOUTH AT THE GI

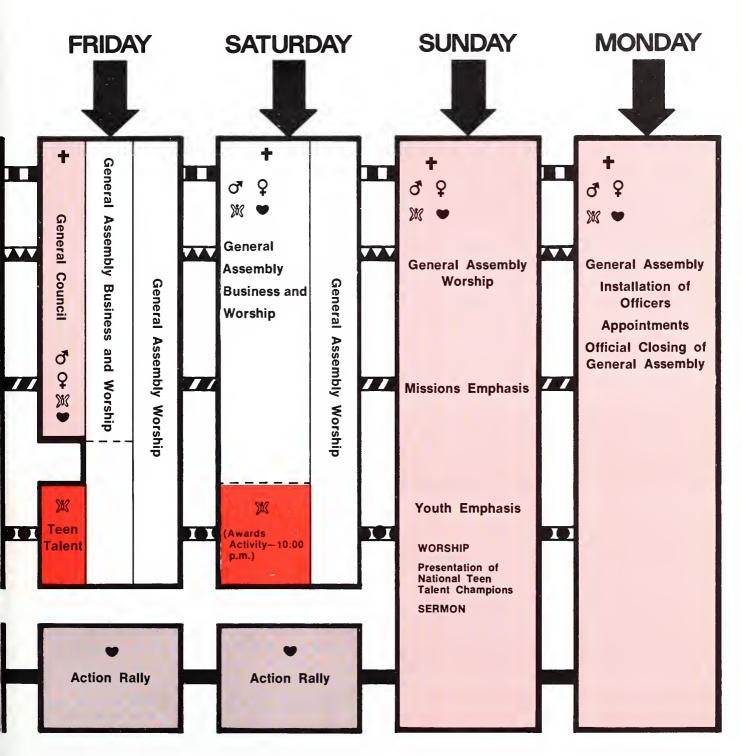
Involvement Flow



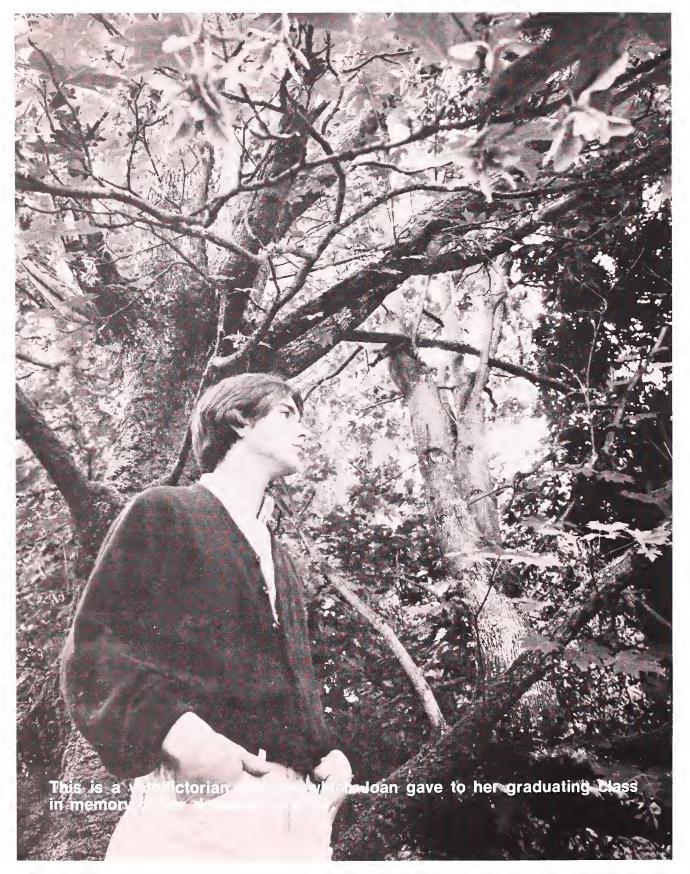
This chart does not include all departmental

ERAL ASSEMBLY

rt Floyd D. Carey



ies, special luncheons, group meetings, etc.



No Deposit... No Return

By JOAN DERRICK STOWELL

would like to dedicate this speech to my brother, Troy Derrick.

We have been assigned the theme, "No Deposit—No Return." It reflects a biblical principle which states, "Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap" (Galatians 6:7).

We all know that man's judgments are fallible. We have but to watch the television, or read the newspaper, or listen to the radio to realize this. Even nature itself is rebelling against man's mistakes.

More and more we notice philosophies of withdrawal. In the young people, the most prominent is the drug scene; and, in the older generation, alcoholism.

I submit that these people are searching for answers—answers that are found in the Bible. The key to America's success is to be found here. America has the highest standard of living for her people, and the Bible has been given its greatest freedom here—that is, until lately. No nation that leaves God out survives for long. God has been banned from our classroom and replaced by atheistic, so-called "scientific," teachings.

We are now faced with the drug scene. Young people are searching for answers, and they are not finding the solutions in science or man-made philosophies. Young people are dropping out of society, out of the Establishment, and, yes, even out of life. We ask ourselves, "Why?" I submit that they are afraid. They're afraid be-

cause they have never been given the answers to the great why's of life—answers that only come from the spiritual realm.

When the great scientist Charles Steinmetz was asked what the next great scientific endeavor should be, he replied, "Prayer! Find out about prayer."

America became great because her people paid the price to worship God. Now, because we are making no spiritual deposits, we are receiving no spiritual returns. We will fail, unless we learn from our failures and realize that we have left God out.

In the history of great religious moves where entire cities and countrysides repented and sought God, America time and again became a great power. America's history is not complete without her history of religious movements.

"Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption" (Galatians 6:7, 8). When God was banned from the classroom, in walked corruption. We cry ecology! Why? Because of corruption. We face corruption on every hand—from the air we breathe, to the literature we read, and even to the entertainment we seek.

"No deposit—no return" is a perfect picture of irresponsibility. Today we are demanding privilege without responsibility. For instance, consider the following:

Morally, one in every three marriages fail.

Educationally, we have more and more knowledge, and know less and less how to handle it.

Scientifically, we are faced with a science without a conscience—intruding now into murdering unborn babies. What will be next?

Spiritually, we have opened a Pandora's box of falseness.

The search for pleasure without responsibility leads to licentiousness, debauchery, and destruction. "Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting."

Jesus Christ alone can satisfy. He alone can give peace with self, peace with God, and peace with our fellowman. Deposits made in the spiritual realm will make returns that will prove everlasting. I have experienced a close friendship with this Savior, and I know that this world has nothing in comparison to offer.

I would like to read a prayer which most of you have probably heard. It is directed to graduating seniors with the hope that maybe somewhere along life's rough road they might remember it and be encouraged. It is this:

God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference.

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NATIONAL TEEN TALENT COMPETITION

Preview and Checklist

MUSIC |

- 1. General Assembly—Dallas, Texas, August 6, 1974
- Theater, Dallas Memorial Auditorium, Tucsday, August 6 (12 noon) through Saturday, August 10 General Schedulc: Tuesday—Vocal Solo and Instrumental Solo (Keyboard); Wednesday—Vocal Solo and Instrumental Solo (Non-Keyboard); Thursday—Instrumental Ensemble and Vocal Ensemble; Friday and Saturday—Choir
- 3. Choirs will perform three sclections. Two selections will be from *New Sound Dimensions*. The required song will be "Nothing But the Blood," sung as it is written. The second song may be any other selection from *New Sound Dimensions*, and the third song may be chosen from any source.
- 4. Judges will prepare a written commentary for each contestant or group of contestants sharing constructive comments and suggestions. Participants will be rated poor, fair, good, excellent, and superior.
- 5. Winners will be announced and trophies prescrited at the Teen Talent Awards Activity on Saturday following the evening service.

ART

- 1. The Teen Talent Art Center will be located in Room 205, Dallas Memorial Auditorium.
 - General Schedule: *Tuesday* through *Wednesday* —check in entries; *Thursday* morning—judging;

- Thursday evening through Saturday morning—art on display; Saturday afternoon—art display open for purchasing entries
- 2. Each participant will be given a written commentary setting forth evaluative comments, helps, and suggestions.
- 3. Awards will be presented at the Teen Talent Awards Activity on Saturday evening.

CREATIVE WRITING

- 1. National winners will be notified by mail by July 15.
- 2. Winning manuscripts will be on display in the art center.
- 3. Each participant will be given a written commentary setting forth evaluative comments, helps, and suggestions.
- 4. Awards will be presented at the Tecn Talent Awards Activity Saturday evening.

PARTICIPATION AND HOUSING

No contestant can compete in Teen Talent competition before his thirteenth birthday or after his twentieth birthday. The age-ruling includes all talent participants but does not apply to accompanists or choir directors in music competition.

All contestants should make their own housing arrangements by writing to the Church of God General Assembly, Housing Bureau, Chamber of Commerce, 1507 Pacific Avenue, Dallas, Texas 75201.

ARE YOU

WHAT YOU WEAR?

By WALTER AND MAMIE ALICE BARWICK

Youth and Christian Education Director, North Carolina

very simple question: Are you what you wear? Tcenager, how would you answer it?

This article could easily become didactie, since it is to deal with Christian dress and social change with a moral emphasis. However, it is written to *challenge* you to give serious thought about a vitally important aspect of your everyday life—not to browbeat you with do's and don'ts.

Faeing the fact that *morals* means "conduct or behavior with regard to right and wrong," there can only be one answer to the title question: "Yes, indced." Church of God youth are always interested in "What the church says" when it eomes to a standard and/or code of conduct. So, let's look into the 1972 Minutes on pages 65 and 66 and read:

That our members dress according to the teachings of the New Testament:

"Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world" (1 John 2:15, 16).

"In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shame-facedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array" (1 Timothy 2:9).

"Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel; But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price" (1 Peter 3:3, 4).

—35th A., 1940, p. 31.

There it is. Your "Yes, indeed" answer proven by the Truth, a sourecbook that always "tells it like it is." It really does matter to Jesus about the dress code you abide by, especially if you desire to be a dedicated Christian. Do you remember in the "long, long ago" singing a little chorus that said, "This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine"? Well, the fact of the matter is that how you dress either brightens or dulls that shining light.

This article could be as didactie as the day is long, but for all its

"prcaehiness" it would mean nothing to the people your light shines on—they probably won't read this article, but they positively will read your life. Remember: your moral standard (reflected in your dress eode) is your own personal opinion; or, as most of you say, it is "doing your own thing."

Since most of you select your own elothes without interference from parents or peers, you dress to suit yourself. And, there's nothing wrong with this as long as you heed the advice in 1 Timothy 2:9 and always remember that what you wear reflects what you are. Also bear in mind, while selecting your clothing, the admonition given in 1 Peter 3:3, 4.

Keeping in stylc can be costly in more ways than one. Why risk someone reading your life as a "non-dedicated" Christian, simply for the sake of a fad or a mod style. No designer should order your style of dress except the Spirit of God who abides in you and reveals the will of the Father.

Without a doubt, you are now asking, "But what difference does it really make how I dress?" Please reread 1 John 2:15, 16. Now, reconsider the title question.

And, finally, give heed to another question: Will you dare to take the challenge found in Philippians 4:5—"Let your moderation be known unto all men"? Consider it both carefully and prayerfully; and do as the Holy Spirit directs you. Then there will never be another question in your mind—or in the mind of anyone who knows you! ‡

A COLUMN TO THE PERSON OF THE

THEJOKE

By SHERRY WILSON

t all started as a joke. The day was warm, with a laziness in the air. Math class was boring, so I decided to add a little excitement to the day.

I wrote a note and threw it across the aisle to a friend of mine named Alan.

After reading it, he looked at me curiously, for I had just asked him if he wanted to run away with me.

Suddenly he was full of plans and ideas for our scheme. Hc wrote me a long letter, filling me in on his brainstorm. We could leave in two weeks when he got his car. Why not take along Lisa and Kris (two other friends)? There would be plenty of room! Mexico or Canada would be the best place to go.

I didn't know what to do or say. I knew that Alan's homelife wasn't very happy. This was his

chance to get away.

When the bell rang, I went to history, while Alan was in English; but we were reunited fourth period during lunch.

He had talked to Kris and Lisa about it, and they were ready to go whenever we werc.

I sighed and gave up. It had

been my idea, and now I was trapped.

For a week we talked secretly every day about our plans. Finally it was decided: September 15 would be the day we would leave.

We would all four stay home from school that day, saying we were sick. Since all of our parents worked, there would be no one home but us.

At eight-thirty, Alan drove to each of our houses and by nine o'clock we were ready to go.

For twenty miles nobody spoke. It was hard to believe that we were really doing this.

Lisa broke the silence. "What happens if we're caught?" she asked shakily.

Nobody answered her, but we were all thinking about it.

So we wouldn't have to stop to sleep, we decided to take turns driving, although nobody had a driver's license but Alan.

I really don't know how we managed it, but for two days we saw only one policeman.

Every few minutes there would be a broadcast on the radio for us.

On the third night, about cight o'elock, Alan was driving. Kris and Lisa were asleep in the back seat. For some reason I was wideawake.

In the silence I was thinking about what we had done. It all added up to one thing—we had

thrown our lives away.

Tears began falling down my face. Just as I opened my mouth to tell Alan that I wanted to go home, a big truck pulled out in front of us. My eyes opened wide in horror as we crashed into it. The last thing I remember was screaming.

When I woke up it was daylight. My head was aching, and both my arms were in casts. One glance around the room told me that I was in a hospital.

My mother sat in a chair beside the bed. Her eyes were closed and surrounded by dark circles. My dad was staring out of the window; a blank expression was on his face.

He looked ten years older. "Mom. Dad." I whispered

hoarsely.

They both jumped, startled, and then threw their arms around mc.

When I could finally say something without breaking into tears, I asked how Alan, Lisa, and Kris were.

Mom turned her head, and I could see her shoulders shaking as she cried.

Dad was the one who told mc that Lisa was dead, and Alan and Kris were in critical condition.

I don't remember doing anything that day but crying.

The lives of four families were shattcred, and it was all because of a joke—my joke.

Jesus Is Alive and Livingin Room 4803

Continued from page 9

to watch television, and it was through watching television in Room 4803 of Overlake Hospital that I became a true, Spirit-filled Christian. It was there that I decided to accept Jesus Christ as my personal Savior. And just think: it all happened because of a television program! It was a religious panel discussion made up of a priest, a rabbi, and a preacher. The subject was "Is God Dead?"

A nurse brought me my dinner that evening and saw that the program was on. She told me that she taught a Sunday-school class at her church. And then she asked, "Do you think God is dead?"

"No," I replied. "God saved my sight—and my soul."

Eight years have passed since the occurrence of those events which brought me to God. I have learned, with God's help, to see more than what my eyes can see. I am still almost blind, but God has kept me from losing my eyesight completely. He has taught me how to work around this "handicap," and has guided me to college where I will learn (the Lord willing) to become a journalist.

And it has all come to pass because Jesus is alive, not dead. I know, because He visited me in Room 4803. +

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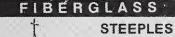
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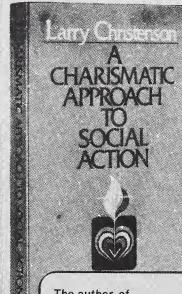
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MUSIC AND TODAY'S

ave vou ever erawled out of bed on a dreary morning feeling like it was raining all over the world—and then proceeded to aet that way?

But what about other oceasions? Have you ever eaught the faint ehorus of the tweet-tweet of a sparrow and the caw-caw of a crow on a bright spring morning? Looking out of the window, you may have been momentarily blinded as God's brilliant sun warmed the dew-sparkled earth. Instantly you were in the shower, making it ring with your morning song. You felt that it was great to be alive.

Yes, the music you hear makes a vital difference in your life—it helps to shape your total personality. Your transistor, for instance, has probably become as essential to you as your elothing—which is why you should know what good music is and should choose to listen to the types of music that will make you a better person.

The Apostle Paul says, "Be ve not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is. Speaking to vourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord" (Ephesians 5:17, 19).

Luke tells us in the Lord's story of the Prodigal Son that "as he [the elder son] came and drew nigh to the house, he heard musie and dancing" (Luke 15:25). The family was happy that the Prodigal had returned home, and hearing the music should have

By BOB R. SUSTAR

Youth and Christian Education Director, Virginia

made the elder brother happy too; however, his stubbornness and jealousy turned him off. He didn't want to hear the sound of rejoicing; he didn't want to be associated with the "song of the redeemed." Have you ever been guilty of feeling the same way?

The three Hebrew children (Shadrach, Meshaeh, and Abednego) were turned off too-but for a justifiable reason. King Nebuehadnezzar required everyone, when he heard the musie, to bow down to the golden image he had made. Adherence to heathen praetiees eaused everyone—exeept the three Hebrew boys—to bow. Conviction and faith in the God of Israel forced them to stand.

Thank God for young people who possess conviction and are willing to stand up for what they know is right!

If faced with the same situation. what would you have done? It is easy to go along with the crowd, for being a part of the "in" group does not require that one have much backbone.

The "in" group with whom I am associated appreciates both secular and religious musie. However, they do not bow to the pressures suggested in many of today's

songs.

The best way not to bow is to keep out of bowing range—by prayer, Bible-reading, and choosing the type of music that would not be labeled "X-rated" in heaven. If you let your ears beeome garbage eans, your soul will end up anemic and alone on the trash heap of craeked records and broken tapes!

God has always wanted His people to enjoy musie. He gave man the ability to make all types of musical instruments and the talent to play them. In 2 Chronieles 7:6 we read: "The Levites also [waited on their offices] with instruments of musick of the Lord, which David the king had made to praise the Lord." David loved and appreciated music. He played the harp and sang many of his own compositions.

Heaven eould not be heaven without musie and singing. One day you will want to sing the "song of the redeemed"! Do you wish to gamble your opportunity to listen to angels sing just for the momentary pleasures of engulfing your life in the Sataninspired songs of this twentieth century? Hard-roek music cannot meet the emotional and spiritual needs of youth who live for Christ,

the Solid Roek! +

WITHOUT YOU, LORD

Without You, Lord, There was no light. There was no truth. I had lost my sight.

The road was hard. The fare was lean. All hope was gone, All joy unseen.

But, with You, Lord, I found the way Of love and hope Through every day.

Your way is right, Your love so dear. With Your help, Lord, I'll never fear.

Complete me, Lord, Restore my soul, Fill my lite And make me whole. —Henry D. Boni

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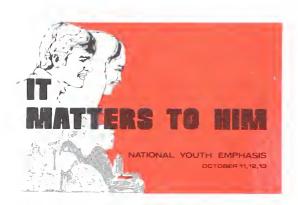


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LOVE THE BOOK!

It's Your Guide to True Worship

By JAMES E. COSSEY

Youth and Christian Education Director, Iowa

ow many times have you heard another teenager say, "Forget it, man! Goin' to ehureh just ain't my thing!"

I mean, haven't you faced this problem of finding some teens who think going to church and worshiping God is a waste of time? Haven't you found a few whose "out of sight" ideas have led them to believe that there is no enjoyment in true worship? Sure you have!

What has happened to these teens is that they have been "tuned in" and "turned on" to the wrong wavelength. While these are being tortured mentally

trying to "live down" what they've already "lived up," a lot of teens that I know have discovered the real truth—God is interested in teens and He desires to be worshiped by them!

The need and the desire to worship are inherent in the nature of youth. Teenagers are bound to worship! You will worship something or someone! You have a god, for God the Creator fashioned the human spirit to be God-conseious; and, regardless of who you are, you will find a god to worship!

The Israelites fashioned a golden ealf. The Moabites bowed to Baal. The Ephesians revered Diana. The Philistines honored Dagon. These were all false gods, but, nevertheless, they prove that man is made with the eapaeity to worship. He will worship something or someone.

There is a freshness about teenage worship! When teens worship, they seldom "eop out" on God! They put their whole body, soul, and spirit into their worship. This is one of the reasons why God desires teenage worship.

Jesus has said, "The time is coming, yes, and has already come, when true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and in reality. Indeed, the Father looks for men who will worship him like that. God is Spirit, and those who worship him can only worship in spirit and in reality" (John 4:23-24, *Phillips*).

In ten years of working with teenagers in the church, I have found very few teenage hypocrites. This is why God desires teenagers to worship Him! Teenagers worship Him wholeheartedly, without reservation, without compromise. They worship Him "in spirit and in reality."

God wants teenagers to worship Him, because teenagers know perhaps better than anyone else how to enjoy the three major elements of worship:

music, prayer, and scripture.

Take music, for example. Music is a most vital part of worship, and who knows more about music than today's teens? Music may take on a different beat; it may boast of a modified style; but, face it: teens who know Jesus really know how to worship through music!

"These teens are near to the heart of God, because they are not ashamed of the gospel and care not who knows they are Christians."

I like that, and so does God! In fact, I've often thought that God must have given David insight into twentieth-century youth and music, when He prompted him to write: "Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands. Serve the Lord with gladness: come before his presence with singing" (Psalm 100:1, 2).

Then, let's notice prayer. Visit a youth camp, a camp meeting youth service, or a youth revival. Listen to that crescendo of voices, united—not as fifty, or a hundred, or a thousand, but as one—rising higher, higher, and becoming more glorious and beautiful!

What is it? The sound of youth—youth in prayer,

youth with a burden, youth praying "with the spirit, and . . . with the understanding also" (1 Corinthians 14:15).

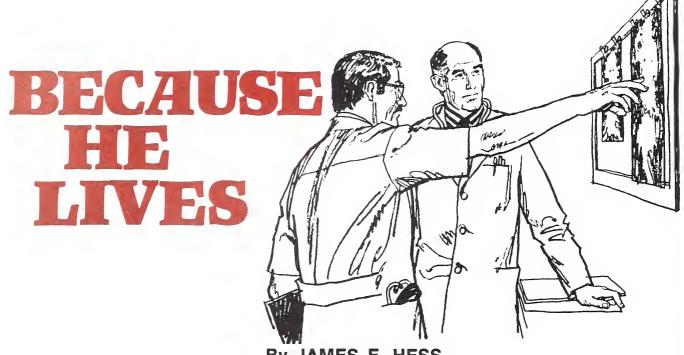
If we delight in what we hear, if we thrill to those sounds, how must the heavenly Father respond? While adults often slip into a rut of formality, and prayer becomes a thoughtless repetition of a few memorized sentences, these teens know how to touch the heart of God! They mean business! God thrills to hear teens pray, because teens really do mean business! Teens, for the most part, do not pray ritualistically! They pray fervently! God delights in the prayers of His teens!

These times have given us men who denounce and deny the authority and inspiration of Scripture. Yet in the midst of the cries of today's apostates, I have never been more encouraged about the future of the church. Today's Church of God teens love the Book! They have learned that the way to peace and happiness is to "seek ye out of the book of the Lord, and read" (Isaiah 34:16).

God's Word, the Bible (every word of it divinely inspired) is His will and testament to men. He desires that it be read by the youth, so that they may learn at an early age to follow it, thus avoiding many of the pitfalls and resulting heartaches experienced by their elders.

Teens who have truly found Jesus as Savior are not ashamed to be seen en route to school with an armload of assignments (those exciting geometry, biology, and literature textbooks), carrying a Bible along with the others. They can be found reading the Word in study halls and in the library, and even on the school bus! These teens are near to the heart of God, because they are not ashamed of the gospel and care not who knows they are Christians (Romans 1:16).

Teenager, it *does* matter to Him about your worship! God wants you to worship Him, because you worship in a distinctive manner. You worship from your heart, "in spirit and in reality"—openly and fervently. "Now the God of peace . . . make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is wellpleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ" (Hebrews 13:20, 21).



By JAMES E. HESS

t was one of those rainy days in the fall of the year when things seem to go wrong. When I eame home that evening, my wife told me that my good friend Danny Newman had been seriously injured in an automobile aecident.

Danny usually stopped by to see me in the afternoon after he finished work, and I had been expecting him to eome by any time now—but today Danny would not come.

"He is in the emergency room at Community Hospital," my wife told me in tears.

I dashed out the door and down the highway. As I traveled the distance down the interstate, my mind wandered back to how it all had begun.

Danny and I had met a eouple of years earlier when I was the director of a Christian youth eenter in a nearby eity. Danny and his sister Vieky sang gospel songs. Danny played the guitar in aeeompaniment. They had a beautiful and unusual sound and eould liven up any song.

Danny was a young Christian at the time and was still fighting the temptations that today's young people face. Danny became a real help to me in my work of reaching other young people with the gospel. He fought opposition that would have snuffed out the life of many young Christians, but he held on to his newfound faith in Jesus Christ because he realized that Christ was the answer to his problems.

Many times we adult Christians do not fully understand the struggle that goes on in the hearts of young people. When we should be showing them

eompassion and love, we want to turn them off and tune their weird sounds and looks out of our lives.

As the summer of 1972 ended, I had had to leave Danny and the youth eenter to teach school in a remote section of the state. Shortly after I moved away, Danny's father died of cancer. This tragedy was heartbreaking for the Newman family, but their faith in God carried them through.

After many months and many miles, Danny and I met again when I moved to Roanoke, Virginia, to teach in a high school there. As we renewed our acquaintance, I was thrilled to see how God had helped Danny grow as a Christian.

I could not believe my eyes as I stood in the emergeney room looking at Danny. Danny, nineteen years old, was a slim niee-looking young man. I wanted to cry out, "Why, God? Why!" However I had learned not to question God, but to aecept what life brings, knowing that all things work together for good to them that love God (Romans 8:28).

No, Doctor, I thought as I listened to his words, no, I cannot accept the idea that there is no chance for his recovery. Listening to the list of Danny's injuries, I knew that only God eould bring him through this—a brain eoncussion, a broken neek, three broken ribs, a punctured lung, a broken pelvis, two broken legs, and a badly eut right hand.

Danny had lost control of the car he was driving on the rain-soaked road and had hit a telephone pole, snapping it in two. Rescue workers had had to work frantically for forty minutes to free him from the wreckage.

As I prayed over his unconscious body in the emergency room, I felt that God was going to spare Danny's life. Many people in many churches were praying for him; and, as the days rolled on, we could see that God was indeed touching him. No paralysis remained from the broken neck—no brain damage from the concussion—and the internal bleeding had stopped as the injured lung had begun to function. I rejoiced as God worked miracle after miracle, and Danny's condition improved every day. The doctors had said Danny would be hospitalized for at least six months—if he lived. Now, after only thirty-seven days, he was going home on crutches. Praise God!

Recently I sat in the Newman home. Observing this close-knit family which rejoiced that God had brought Danny home, it made me realize how wonderful a Christian family is. Through the tragedy of losing their dad and facing the other hardships of life, they were able to rejoice because Jesus Christ is very real in their lives.

Now the whole congregation at the Bedford (Virginia) Church of God rejoices to hear Danny strumming on the guitar and singing with Vicky, whose voice blends in a beautiful, youthful harmony: "BECAUSE HE LIVES—I can face tomorrow—BECAUSE HE LIVES—all fear is gone; Because I know—He holds the future, And life is worth the living, just because He lives."

Finishing the song, Danny beams as he says, "Thank God, because He lives, I can live also." +

SCHOOL'S OUT

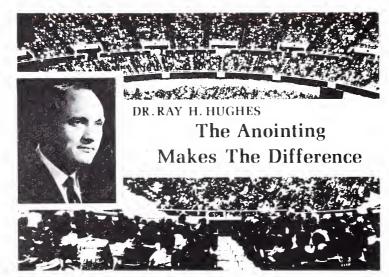
In spite of one's best intentions to be a good student, school can become a drag. Arising early, deciding what to wear, and being pushed by class schedules and assignments wear a person down.

At no time do we become more tired of the routine than during the last weeks of school. Warm weather and the monotonous voice of some teacher droning on and on work on our patience. Too, we know that just around the corner comes an abrupt change of routine -- for three months we will hear no class bells, we will be given no class assignments, and we will make no mad rush to an early morning class at school.

Now school is out, and the freedom of summer vacation is here, and I want to suggest a few points for you to live by this summer.

- 1. Don't forsake the Book. Refuse to let yourself become so involved either with having a big time or with working at a summer job that you fail to read the Bible each day. Even a few verses carefully read will be a great spiritual help.
- 2. Remember to pray. A few minutes of quiet time each day, preferably in the early morning, will keep your spiritual batteries charged. It is amazing what a few verses of Scripture and a few minutes on your knees will do for you.
- 3. Don't pass up church. Put church attendance at the top of your list of priorities. Without fail, be on hand for Sunday school, morning worship, Sunday evening service, and midweek Family Training Hour. Even while on a trip, take time out to go to God's house.
- 4. Lastly, speak up for Christ. Mention the joy of salvation to those about you; speak of the keeping power of the Lord; testify to the saving power of Christ. You will be gratified with the feeling of achievement which witnessing brings, and souls may be won to the Lord because you were faithful in witnessing.

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Over Just a Bus?
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Each Saturday morning the young people go throughout the city inviting people to Sunday school.

YOUTH AND THE BUS MINISTRY

VAN WATKINS

Youth and Evangelism Director Northport, Alabama, Church of God

hurch of God youth are a vital force in evangelizing the lost! In 1 Timothy 4:12 the Scriptures state, "Let no man despise [have low esteem for] thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers . . . in conversation."

The word conversation implies "behavior or manner of life" and infers that the Christian young person should busy himself in the work of God's kingdom. Paul was saying that youth are not to belittle their abilities, but are to utilize their talents for the glory of God.

Consider the all-important challenge that this gospel imperative presents to the youth of our church. We are to win, to rescue, to witness, and to evangelize the lost of our communities! Praise God that the energies and potentials of youth are not overlooked in the Great Commission. When Christ said, "Go ye" (Matthew 28:19), He was speaking to all ages!

THE PURPOSE

The Northport Church of God is convinced that the purpose of involving youth in the bus ministry

Youth and the Bus Ministry

Continued

is to answer with action Christ's Commission. The evangelization of lost souls is the compelling motive, and bus evangelism is the means by which our youth "go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that . . . [God's] house may be filled" (Luke 14:23). The bus ministry, of course, helps our church attendance. It is a progressive program and has had a great impact on Northport's total evangelism program. But how does it benefit our youth?

When asked, "Does the bus ministry help you?"

young people responded favorably:

An eighteen-year-old senior in high school, said, "Yes, it's helped me realize the real need that we have in this area. Before, I never realized that so many people didn't have a church home. I'm just glad to be able to help them!"

A sixteen-year-old president of his high school Junior Class put it this way: "Yes, the bus ministry helps me, because it's given me experience that I never had before. It's helped me mature in my

Christian life.'

Another sixteen-year-old said, "I can really say that bus ministry visitation has helped me—it's made me want to witness more. Realizing a need, responding to that need in Christian service, rescuing the lost through effective witnessing—should not these goals embody the purpose of every Christian? Involving young people and young adults in these goals gives them added strength to endure in a world that is competing for their lives.

An eighteen-year-old senior says, "The bus ministry has certainly strengthened me! It's given me more confidence in witnessing, and I just have a wonderful feeling as I see God blessing our church! I never used to do anything for God, but now I have

a real place in the church!"

A thirteen-year-old young man who will soon become an Eagle Scout said, "The bus ministry has caused my prayer life to be strengthened. I really have a burden for those bus kids."

One of the bus-ministry secretaries said, "I es-



Ken Pate and Murle Sanders invite a resident to ride one of the buses to Sunday school.

pecially enjoy the bus ministry, because it helps me stay close to the Lord."

THE PLAN

Young people can be effectively used in every area of bus evangelism; and, of course, each church will vary its approach, depending on its specific needs and demands. Our plan is quite simple, yet it is one that has contributed greatly to Northport's total youth and evangelism program.

Our bus laborers are divided into distinct areas of responsibility. The captain, the secretary, and the driver are the three key personnel on each bus. They are directly responsible for visiting regulars each week, for immediate extension into new areas of outreach, and for the burden and maintenance of their individual route. Youth and young adults are valuable in all of these capacities!

For example, Mark Jacobs is a young man who is serving as captain of our newest route. Two of our drivers are in their early twenties, and *all* of our bus secretaries are either teenagers or young adults! And, by the way, each of these dedicated young people feel the burden of this ministry and are doing an outstanding work for God.

Another vital area of our bus ministry involves the Survey Squadrons. This group of Christian

> "Youth and the bus ministry have certainly made an impact on our church, in terms of both material and spiritual success."

> > —Pastor Earl F. Hall

laborers are almost completely composed of youth and young adults. The Survey Squadrons have the responsibility of going each week into new areas, and their mission is to go from house to house in an effort to find new prospects and to expose the various communities of our city to Northport's bus services. They work in conjunction with the designated bus routes and are used in the areas where they are most needed. Theirs is a very important function, and God has richly blessed us with young people that care.

It might also be noted that at least three to four young men and women (beside our captains and secretaries) ride each bus on Sunday morning to help with discipline on the bus route. They mingle with the children, tell them stories, sing songs, etc., and have greatly assisted in the efforts of the total program.

THE POWER

The key to the success of Northport's bus ministry has been youth involvement! In fact, the effects of this area of evangelism have been seen in multiplied fashion.

Pastor Earl F. Hall believes in the power of youth involvement. He says, "Youth and the bus ministry have certainly made an impact on our church, in terms of both material and spiritual success. We have seen wonderful growth, but we have also seen a great spiritual awakening among our youth. The total evangelism program has been enriched by these efforts!"

The total evangelism program? Of course! The excitement generated by these youth and young adults has caused many others to become challenged to greater Christian involvement. Our various outreach programs—Family Training Hour, YWEA, visitation, junior church, world missions, and a host of others—have all been greatly strengthened. We are certainly thankful for these fine young Christians who have caught the Gospel vision.

Why youth and the bus ministry? We respond with the words of one of our young men, "Why not?"

WHYALL THIS OVER JUST A I

Screaming children. wall to wallcrying. yelling in our hall...

Bus to clean... bus to fix... to speak it true. we're in a mix!

Can you explain it? Troublesome mess! Why all these buses? Can't there be less?

Will you tell me? I cannot see: why all this fuss over just a bus.

See each girl and boynot a foe. but a blessed joy that needs to grow.

They are quite bold: this is true. They must be told He died for them too! Buses will bring themjobs to reach. Others will train themtheir job's to teach.

That's why the fuss! That's why the bus! Now get busyit depends on us!

JUDY A. LLOYD

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watehed the animals as they cavorted back and forth in their watery habitat, climbed upon the land, and began to wander about as they had been ereated and given instinet to do. How wonderful, I thought, are the works of God and the things which He has made!

My reverie, however, was rudely broken by the voice of the television eommentator, as in a matter-of-fact voice he explained the eons of time which he said had brought about the "evolution" of these creatures.

Evolution—the nine-letter word that rears its ugly head and that many folks use to explain the marvelous works which you and I see in the world around us. This is the word that its proponents use to explain the beginning of man. They feel that. if given enough time, anything ean happen.

Or, perhaps they feel that since none of us lived eons ago, we eannot dispute their theories and their guess is as good as anybody else's. Besides, haven't they painstakingly studied in their respective field?

They disregard the faet, however, that every Christian knows the "Alpha and Omcga, the beginning and the ending . . . the first and the last" (Revelation 1:8-11). And He is "the Aneient of days' (Daniel 7:22). It was this Almighty Creator who inspired the words of wisdom: "The fool hath

BCWARE

RUTH ANN MAYBERRY

said in his heart, There is no God" (Psalm 53:1). These words are as true today as they were thousands of years ago. God knew even then that in this generation there would still be those who would, with blinded eyes and hearts, refuse to eomprehend His love and mercy. God knew that there would still be those who would make every effort to explain away the Creator and grasp at lies to avoid being answerable to an Almighty God.

But, if it were possible, it would take far more than the theory of evolution to do away with the Great Seientist who balaneed the earth on its axis, who hung the stars and moon, who strategieally placed the sun at just the right distance so that no one would either freeze or burn to death! Listen to the solemn warning the Apostle Paul gave a young Christian: "O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane and vain babblings, and oppositions of science falsely so ealled" (1 Timothy 6:20). Evolution is "seienee falsely so ealled."

When I was in school, I was taught that science was not seience until it had been proved so by experimentation. However, most evolutionists differ among themselves about the formation of God's ereatures: because evolution is, at best. a theory.

So what is the big deal? You say you can take it or leave it? Not if you are a young person entering a non-Christian sehool. In this case, if you expect to pass a course in biology, you must give verbal support to the theory of evolution as taught in the modern textbooks.

Little did Darwin realize the readiness with which some persons would aeeept his ideas—ideas which had not met with such wide aeceptanee when they were presented by others before him. Little did he realize at the time the truth in the Word of God that there would be those who would ehoose to leave God out of their knowledge and that God, in turn, would give them over to a reprobate mind so they would believe a lie and be damned. (Read Romans 1:24-32 and 2 Thessalonians 2: 11, 12.)

A friend of mine, taking a biology course in a local university, sat in a class in which the teacher made the statement that although some people did not like to think they sprang from monkeys, she personally thought they were rather "cute." My Bible declares that man was made in the image and likeness of God—not the image of another part of creation.

A textbook for a particular university explained that if we would observe animals, we would realize their similarity to man. This statement was intended to show that man came from lower animals, and it stated that even the wings of fowls have the same basic bones as those found in the structure of man's arm.

Why then, the question is asked, "is there this similarity, if man did not evolve from lower animals? My answer is this: This similarity can be judged by the same standard that art critics declare certain paintings to belong to Rembrant or Van Gogh. How do they know? Because of the similarities of the brush strokes, the way the paint is blended, the artist's handling of the medium with which he was working, etc.; that is, that the same person created all such paintings. Why then would evolutionists fail to recognize that the same Creator made all animals? Why? Because evolutionists choose to leave God out of their knowledge. "I have found the link between God and man. His name is 'Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.'"

"Professing themselves to be wisc, they became fools" (Romans 1:22).

The list of Evolution's foolishness is long—foolishness such as can be seen in the case of the Nebraska man. This stately old gentleman was rebuilt from only a tooth, which was later identified as the tooth of an extinct pig.

Then there was the Piltdown man. This old fossil was purported by some to be as old as a million years. The reshaping of his body started out with only part of a human skull found in a gravel pit at Piltdown in Sussex, England. Several years later, another part was supposedly found. This piece was added to the first to show that the Piltdown man had a jawbone like an ape. Surely this was a link between man and ape!

To the horror of evolutionists, however, in 1953 British scientists tested the flourine content of the bones and found that the jawbone was that of a modern ape; that the skull was probably less than 50,000 years old; and that

there had been a deliberate fake in assembling the pieces. Thus, another scientific "breakthrough" broke down.

Another "link" was the discovery of the Neanderthal man in 1856 near Dusseldorf, Germany. About thirty skeletons of this man have been discovered. At first scientists believed this specimen to be a squat, stooped, brutish apelike creature—just the thing for man to have "evolved" from. But, in 1958, an examination of one such skeleton showed that the remains belonged to an old man who had had severe arthritis.

Scientists have since concluded, according to the *World Book Encyclopedia*, that the "bodies of Neanderthal men and women were completely human, fully erect, and very muscular. Their brains were as large as those of modern man." In short, this type of specimen is still alive and kicking today, in the same form.

Replicas of the New Guinea man, for another, have been rediscovered (if one may call it that) as late as 1970—still living near Australia.

The wisdom of Solomon is wiser than man's up-to-date wisdom: "As thou knowest not what is the way of the spirit, nor how the bones do grow in the womb of her that is with child: even so thou knowest not the works of God who maketh all" (Ecclesiastes 11:5).

Even God Himself said in Isaiah 29:14-16, "Therefore, behold, I

Beware the Evolution Bit

Continued

will proceed to do a marvellous work among this people, even a marvellous work and a wonder: for the wisdom of their wise men shall perish, and the understanding of their prudent men shall be hid. Woe unto them that seek deep to hide their counsel from the Lord, and their works are in the dark, and they say, Who seeth us? and who knoweth us?"

True Christians have no quarrel with true science and with the men and women who devote their lives to bettering mankind. But I, for one, vehemently disagree with anyone giving credit to Mother Nature or Evolution that rightfully belongs to a merciful and all-wise Maker. "Will a man rob God?" the Bible asks in Malachi 3:8. Yet evolution seeks to rob God of the offerings of praise due Him for His wonderful works.

While budding scientists faithfully study from those regarded as leaders in their field, it seems strange to me that few ever turn to the Great Scientist and His Word. If, for example, scientists had been familiar with God's Word, they would have realized the full impact of the following passage:

To whom then will ye liken God? . . . It is he that sitteth upon the circle of the earth, and the inhabitants thereof are as grasshoppers; that stretcheth out the heavens as a curtain, and spreadeth them out as a tent to

dwell in: That bringeth the princes to nothing; he maketh the judges of the earth as vanity. . . . To whom then will ye liken me, or shall I be equal? saith the Holy One. Lift up your eyes on high, and behold who hath created these things, that bringeth out their host by number: he calleth them all by names by the greatness of his might, for that he is strong in power; not one faileth. . . . Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? there is no searching of his understanding (Isaiah 40:18-28).

How foolish it now seems when folk, believing the earth was square, set about to prove it, when in reality the earth was round. But the Bible is full of such useful truths for aspiring scientists (see verse 22 above); unfortunately, they are "ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth" (2 Timothy 3:7). They are too busy trying to explain away the One who *inspired* the messages to receive any instruction from them.

Said God, "Surely your turning of things upside down shall be esteemed as the potter's clay: for shall the work say of him that made it, He made me not? or shall the thing framed say of him that framed it, He had no understanding?" (Isaiah 29:16). The term homo sapiens means "wise man," and includes all modern man, although this is a term that God might well dispute.

God is still creating, as He said, "Behold, I make all things new" (Revelation 21:5). Everyone who accepts Christ becomes a new creature in His love (2 Corinthians 5:17). John put it quite well when he said, "In him was life; and the life was the light of men" (John 1:4).

I admit I don't understand the splitting of the atom, or the important-sounding formulae, or all the knowledge contained in man's books. But I have a personal familiarity with the One who put the whole universe into working order. I know the One who said "Let there be light," and there was light (Genesis 1:3). I know the One who set His rainbow in the clouds and declared that the earth would never again be destroyed by water; and even though I have been taught the scientific reason for this, it is still just as God said would be (read Genesis 9:8-17).

So while some men make monkeys of themselves looking for "missing links" between *ape* and man, I declare that I have found the link between *God* and man. His name is "Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace" (Isaiah 9:6). His name is JESUS!

"I am the way" Jesus proclaimed in John 14:6. And He is the way—the only way. Those who walk in the way with Him have a big plus going for them. They experience a joy explosion! Youth day at camp meeting helps young people to catch and to share the spirit of this joy.

It's your world; prepare to reach it. God extends to you an invitation to go places and to do things with Jesus. Where do you want to go? What do you want to do? You need a big vision and a new mood for action. There's help! This is the AIM (atmosphere, instruction, motivation) and the reason for youth day at camp meeting.

Participating in the program on youth day is only the beginning of leadership—but what a great way to start! The program is peoplecentered. It involves you with other people who are walking the Jesus way. This exposure builds self-confidence and guides you in magnifying your talents for the glory of God. Youth day at camp meeting is a time for Church of God young people to demonstrate their understanding of the mission of the church and to be involved in it.





You can experience a super joy explosion and live the good life in Jesus. Camp-meeting worship will draw you closer to the blessed hope. It will help you to be yourself in Jesus as God made you. People will know that you are a Christian by your joy. Youth-day involvement will stimulate you to grow in love for God, or His Word, and for His people. The fruit of this growth will be joy! You've got a big plus going for you. Get involved in the youth-day program at camp meeting this year.

No. Sept. 25 Ed. St. Sept. Supplement of B.

JUST LISTEN TO THE LYRICS!

NORMAN L. STALLINGS

Youth and Christian Education Director, Arizona

outh work seriously at learning the lyrics of new recordings. Three favorite youth pastimes are getting together with friends and playing records or tapes, singing and playing a guitar, and simply enjoying the blasting of a radio. The average teen listens to the radio approximately five hours a day. Without doubt, the lives of youth revolve around music.

MUSIC AFFECTS EVERY ASPECT OF LIFE

The influence which this pastime is having on young lives is understandable. The message content becomes so much a part of them that it is enacted in their daily living. This makes it necessary to evaluate the message content. Just what are the lyrics saying?

MUSIC CAN BE A BLESSING OR A CURSE— DEPENDING UPON ITS USE

Music communicates meaning. It is often serious and probing, revealing the struggles youth face. However, many lyrics imply moral values contrary to those which the church teaches.

Youth may accept these as good simply because they are published and because they belong to the youth culture. But younger teens are often unable to catch the implications hidden "beneath the surface."

Don Wyrtzen, former director of music at Dallas Bible College, states that today's music espouses the philosophy of existentialism, or the "now" ethic,



which puts a major emphasis upon the individual and his response to the present.

Instilled in the minds of today's youth is "me—now." Mr. Wyrtzen proceeds to ask some thought-provoking questions about rock music in particular: What is the message of rock music? Why does the rock text and music hold such an intense sway over the minds of our youth?

Not only the beat but also the lyrics are expressions of the current philosophy which claims absolute and total personal freedom—including personal freedom in matters of love and sex. We must remember the words of Galatians 6:8—"For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting."

Recently, I made an extensive survey to determine the themes of the songs being played over secular radio stations. Of the wide variety of songs reviewed, I discovered that 73 percent openly advocated pro-

"Many of today's recordings may sound good at first, but their ultimate aim may be to discredit the gospel and the person of Christ Jesus, our Savior."

miscuous love and sex. It is little wonder that the moral standards for many young people have become lax.

This is a day of uninhibited lyrics. Recording artists brag that they can say and do whatever they please under the guise of artistry and good taste. I am convinced that Satan is using the field of music as a battleground; and, as a result, this generation of youth is caught in a fierce spiritual struggle. In 1 Thessalonians 5:21, 22 we are charged to "hold fast that which is good. Abstain from all appearance of cvil."

LYRICS ARE SPRINKLED HEAVILY WITH WORDS FROM THE BIBLE

A community college student, referring to a popular, quasi-religious song, praised, "Wow! It's just like the Bible!" But like so many of today's popular songs, the emotional words carried no sense of devotion or worship and little reference to God. Many are deceived because they believe that when a song has religious overtones—through its use of a few religious words and phrases—that it is, in a sense, religious. In reality, it may be sacrilegious and unchristian.

People thought of the Jesus rock, "Spirit in the Sky," as a religious song. How wonderful it was, they thought, for a religious song to be ranked at the top. But its lyrics were not scriptural. The third verse expressed the thought that the singer had never sinned. This is contradictory to Romans 3:23, "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God."

Another example of a song about which many have been deceived is "My Sweet Lord" by George Harrison. In Rock and the Church Bob Larson states that in the final refrain of this song, the background voices

switch from "Hallelujah" to the "Hare Krishna" chant.

Hare is the name of Vishnu, the Hindu god who offers delightful pleasure. Rama is the incarnation of Vishnu. Krishna is the "god-narrator" of the

Bhagavada-Gita—the Hindu's sacred text.

To faithful Hindus, such as Harrison, the chant is literally the incantation of the different names of the Hindu god. Since Christians know these gods to be false (in reality, demon spirits), "My Sweet Lord," according to Larson, is actually a prayer of demon possession.

Although the world is talking and singing about Jesus, this should be no come-on for the true Christian. Youth must not be gullible to the deceitfulness of Satan. Many of today's recordings may sound good at first, but their ultimate aim may be to discredit the gospel and the person Christ Jesus, our Savior. Adults and youth alike must recognize their place as evaluators of the message, whether or not they are in agreement with the style of the music.

THE AIM AND FINAL REASON OF ALL MUSIC SHOULD BE NOTHING ELSE BUT THE GLORY OF GOD AND THE REFRESHMENT OF THE SPIRIT

The secular songs of today reveal an inner need which can be fulfilled with carnal love. But the lyrics of divine inspiration speak of an inner fulfillment in Christ Jesus.

The New Testament scripture gives a command to teach Christian principles through music: "teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs" (Colossians 3:16). This is em-

phasized again in Ephesians 5:19.

The most recent influence on Christian singing has been the folk hymn. Its popularity has soared to incredible heights. To the folk hymn has been added a conflicting mixture of jazz, rock, and country styles, which is permeating the current religious music scene. But more important than the style is the message content. Music taste and patterns change, but the message must remain the same. The contents of spiritual music must include salvation, doctrine, Christian living, fellowship, prayer, reverence, and worship. 承

Have your Stuckent for the Long?

Paul did.
Philip did.
Lydia did.
Lydia did.

TINTERS TO HIE

NATIONAL YOUTH EMPHASIS
OCTOBER 11,12,13

WORSHIP A ONE-SIDED AFFAIR?

BILLY J. O'NEAL

Youth and Christian Education Director, Missouri

hen I worship God in Spirit and in truth, when I commune with Him, when I adore Him with all that's within me, does God give

me any promise that He hears me and recognizes my worship? Is my worship to Him more than a one-sided affair?

In the ninth chapter of the Gospel of John there is a story of a man who was born blind. Jesus made some clay, put it on the man's eyes, and told him to go and wash. The man washed his eyes and came back seeing. Some neighbors had doubted what had happened, but the man said that one called "Jesus" had healed him.

The Pharisees tried to diminish the miracle, but the healed man said, "I can see because He [Christ] is a prophet and made

this thing happen."

The Pharisees continued to doubt and tried to confuse the man about the marvelous thing that had happened to him. But in verse 31, the man said to the Pharisees, "But if any man be a worshipper of God, and doeth his will, him he heareth."

Worship is not a one-sided affair! When a person talks to God, communes with Him, or worships Him, God does respond and reward! Knowing, then, that God is on the other end of our worship and that He does respond and communicate, what are some of the personal rewards

of this interaction?

First of all, there is *cleansing*. When the leper came to Christ for cleansing, he "worshipped him" (Matthew 8:2). There is a cleansing which all God's children know. It is the cleansing of the conscience from the condemnation of sin by the atoning blood of Christ.

There is also another cleansing. It is the cleansing from the indwelling contamination of sin. This twofold cleansing is men-

tioned in 1 John 1:7, 9.

The blood of Christ cleanses us, if we will accept it. Christ can remove the defilement of an impure heart. He can take away the tartness of an unholy temper. He can remove the black desire of covetousness and take away the root of bitterness. He can cut out the haughtiness of pride; He can kill the weed of jealousy; and He can conquer the problems of self-will.

Second, there is *faith*. The Syrophenician woman is a good example of this. "Then came she and worshipped him, saying, Lord, help me" (Matthew 15:25). Not for one moment did she question the words of Christ. When He discouraged her, she clung all the more to Him.

Whittier says of faith: Through the dark and stormy night Faith beholds a feeble light, Up the blackness streaking; Knowing God's own time is best.

Not only is God's time best, but also His way is best. Faith says, "I'll go where He wishes; I'll do what He tells me; I'll take what He gives; I'll follow where He leads; I'll deliver the message He bids; I'll remain where He puts me; and I'll bow low in His presence in humble adoration." What a reward of worship!

Third, there is *power*. Because we are human, we doubt and struggle. We can strengthen our faith in the Lord Jesus and receive power as we worship Him. He

has power—He is power. This word *power*, used more than 118 times in the New Testament, is the Greek word *deunimis* from which we get our English word *dynamite*.

This explosive word is only one of about six words for power that are used in the New Testament. There is the power of right and authority. "All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth" (Matthew 28:12)

thew 28:18).

Another word for *power* means *muscle*—just plain muscle. The muscle of God can become our strength as we let the arm of God hold us when our arms com-

pletely fail.

The word from which we get our English word energy is energo. It combines the Greek word for work with the preposition in. That's what energy is—the power of God working in and through us. God's power is communicable. He knows how to release His power toward and in us. He commands the release of that power toward those who worship Him.

One of the most frequently used verses concerning worship is John 4:24, "God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth." God desires sincere worship from the heart. When one offers up praises unto God, lifting up holy hands, glorifying the Lord, God will respond to such worship with a moving of His mighty presence.



READY FOR ACTION

GARY TYGART

Youth and Christian Education Director, Oregon

hat a mess she made! For the first time, our pastor asked Suzy to lead songs last Sunday night. Her wobbly legs and unsteady steps earried her to the front. She tried—she really did—but nothing went right, and she finally broke down and began to ery. All was apparently lost.

Suddenly, Grandpa Jones let a tear slip down his cheek. He hadn't been to ehureh in a month of Sundays, but now he was crying—that hardhearted backslider was crying. Can you imagine that? Then, a most wonderful thing happened; he slowly rose, stumbled to the altar, and eried out to God.

After service, Suzy awkwardly asked to testify. "I've always been afraid to become involved in our worship service. When Brother Williams asked me to lead songs, I agreed to do it, but I was

afraid that I would fail. I made so many mistakes and then . . . then all I could do was ery. I didn't know that Christ would use me to lead Grandpa Jones to Him."

"But I'm too young." "People will eriticize me." "I'll make a flop." "No one will listen." "They'll all laugh." "I'm too inexperienced." These are some of the excuses you may have used. Discard those excuses. Become involved in your local church.

Make a youthful donation by surrendering your own self to Christ and the Church. "Present your bodies a living sacrifiee, holy, acceptable unto God" (Romans 12:1). Become a total Christian in attendance, prayers, tithes, offerings, and enthusiasm. Commit yourself to the task.

The story is told of the farmer's pig and chicken who became concerned about their hungry owner. "Let's give our master a breakfast of fresh ham and eggs," the old hen caekled.

"Hold on a minute," grunted the pig, "you're only giving an offering, but my gift would be a total commitment."

Let's be totally committed to Christ, and man our post of duty as did Gideon and his men (Judges 8:21-23). You can do it! "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me" (Philippians 4:13).

A few young people develop a couldn't-eare-less attitude. They deface the pews, tear songbooks,

mark on church walls, stick gum under the pews, and make airplanes out of Sunday school leaflets. They show disrespect for God's house by laughing and talking during a service. But dedicated, Christian young people love the church even "as Christ . . . loved the church, and gave himself for it" (Ephesians 5:25).

"Oh! Come on now—don't get too serious about the church. After all, you've got to have your fling in life. Man, you're young and have eighty years ahead to get

right."

Tom listened to that chatter and lived to be nineteen. Mary Jane heard of communal living and thought she would try it. She lost her virginity, health, and sanity after two short years. Christ has the answer in His Church. There, you'll find it told like it really is.

Youth are on Christ's mostwanted list. He's looking for teens to fight like David, to walk like Enoch, to work like Noah, to witness like Andrew, to sing like the Levites, and to pray like Daniel.

It matters to Him that you are a part of the Church. To be a bench warmer is no thrill for a football player, nor for a Christian teen. Get in the game, carry the ball, and score some touchdowns for Christ. Perhaps in the next service, you will be handed the ball.





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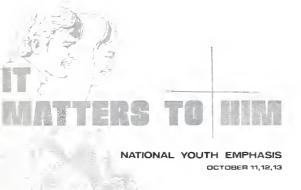
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Minneapolis, MN 55438 Sowing the Good Seed



ON TARGET

T. WAYNE DYER

Youth and Christian Education Director, Wisconsin

SOGGV guided missile was suddenly launehed from the teen-filled back pew. T e n misehievous pairs of eyes intently followed the direct flight of the well-ehewed paper wad. With exeellent accuracy the missile sped hastily halfway down the section of pews to rest suddenly on target in the exaet middle of the shining bald head. The glowing head was being held sleepily creet by an elderly gentleman, and the sudden impact brought the nodding worshiper to an abrupt state of eonfused awakenment. In an almost normal reaction his two thin hands shot quiekly into the air and his startled voice erackled, "Praise the Lord!" This disturbing ineident sent the entire row of teens into uneontrollable hysteria, the pastor into instant oblivion, and the other attenders into a state of eonfusion.

It matters to Jesus how we aet during worship service. It is so easy to enjoy going to ehureh because of friends or activities. Sometimes these other interests and attractions promote a misuse of God's house. Worship service is not an ideal place for aggressive courtships, social entanglements, sharing gossip, chewing gum, or target praetiee. It is not enough to attend ehureh, bring your Sunday sehool offering, and earry your Bible to elass. What really eounts to Jesus is whether or not we truly worship Him when we are in ehurch. Our target is personal worship. We have not really worshiped until we have had an experience with God. "But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him" (John 4:23).

When you are on target with proper worship, God is glorified and you are blessed. It matters to Him, so He ealls us to worship.

O give thanks unto the Lord; call upon his name: make known his deeds among the people. Sing unto him, sing psalms unto him: talk ye of all his wondrous works. Glory ye in his holy name: let the heart of them rejoice that seek the Lord. Seek the Lord, and his strength: seek his face evermore. Remember his marvellous works that he hath done; his wonders, and the judgments of his mouth (Psalm 105:1-5).

Both mind and spirit must be involved in true worship to God. (1) You must be involved mentally—thinking about the worthiness of God; eonsidering your unworthiness of His love; evaluating His redemptive plan for you personally; concentrating on His safekeeping; reflecting on His eonstant

presence in the dark times of need; and meditating on the eapability of His divine power to answer prayer. (2) You must be involved in spirit—willing for your spirit to be examined by Him; ehoosing to serve Him with your will, desiring to fulfill the true worship with your life, "Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season" (Hebrews 11:25); and preferring to follow His paths for your marriage and vocation.

Teens, when you are really on target with worship, you score personally. You receive the rewards of victorious Christian living: access to God (Romans 5:2), power with God (Matthew 17:20), daily provision (Luke 12:28), answer to prayer (1 John 3:22), and confidence in God (Acts 4:8-13).

Worship is not the total concentration of the soul with his needs, but it is the complete communion with God Himself. God is worthy of our worship. Worship is reading the Bible, giving tithes and offerings, having serious prayer, hearing the Word, and being reverent to God.

The building ean be a store-front, a tent, a small chapel, or a large ehureh—the place doesn't matter to Him. It does matter to Him that we are on target with our worship. Christ must be the center of our worship. When we have Him at the eenter, we hit the target—bull's-eye.





NATIONAL YOUTH EMPHASIS
OCTOBER 11,12,13

FRANK FINDS GOD

STEVE GWALTNEY

Youth and Christian Education Director, New Jersey

rank was of age—eighteen—and ready to take on the whole world. For the most part that is just what Frank had done. He had tried everything and found nothing. Sure, he had a lot of exciting experiences to remember and a whole lot more coming his way, but to say he had put it all together and was at peace with himself would be stretching it. The thought had passed through his mind that he was not at peace with God, but Frank was not willing to face that—he thought.

On January 17, 1968, Frank gave in to the continual bugging of a couple of friends and went to church with them. There he sat, unwillingly taking part, when suddenly something happened.

He began to notice the love and joy the people

were sharing as they worshiped.

Next, something started happening to Frank himself. He felt a wonderful spirit of love, compassion, and genuine concern reaching out to him. He tried to figure it out and could not, but one thing was for sure—this all seemed very real. He wanted to follow it, yet he found himself being drawn away.

The preacher spoke; Frank listened. The preacher gave the invitation. Frank wanted to go to the altar. Yet, he didn't want to go. Then, suddenly this overwhelming spirit of love took hold of Frank. In that spirit he went to the altar.

God wondrously saved Frank. He became a member of that church and a faithful Christian. Frank

now knows what it means to have true peace with God and to be at peace with himself. He was able to get it all together. Frank was one of the fortunate ones who was touched by the efforts of people worshiping in spirit and in truth.

This is a true story—not this specific story—but many are very similar to it, for this is successful

worship.

This is what God has ordained for His Church: "For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe" (1 Corinthians 1:21).

Jesus is the head of this Church and by God's gracious love is made to us "wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption" (1 Co-

rinthians 1:30).

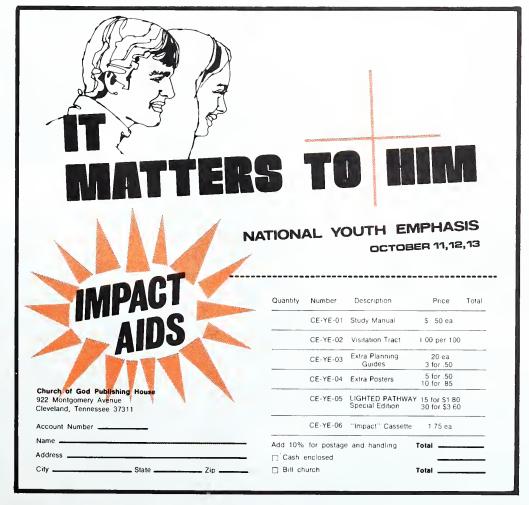
Who is this man Jesus? He is the God-man, the Son of God—God dwelling among men. He has come to bring men into full and right relationship with God. He is the great baptizer who has come to fill men literally with the Spirit of God. He is the master of all things and has come to bring spiritual and physical healing to all who will believe (see Matthew 9:1-8, John 5:1-9). He is the man of encounter. To meet Him is to meet God (see John 14:9).

The love of God has made it possible that where two or three arc gathered together in His name, He will be in the midst of them (Matthew 18:20). This is God's way, His economy, His will, His revelation. Christ said to the woman of Samaria: "God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth" (John 4:24). When God's people meet together in the name of His Son Jesus and worship in spirit and in truth, the presence of the reconciling Savior is there and the will of God is accomplished: For God is a loving heavenly Father "who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth" (1 Timothy 2:4). In the presence of Jesus, there is deliverance from guilt, oppression, and sinful habits; and there is a time of healing, help, and strength.

Thus, we envision the meaning of true worship—Frank finds God! You see, it's "Christ in you, the hope of glory" (Colossians 1:27). Christ is made the very righteousness of God unto you. Thus, we sit together in heavenly places in Christ, who has reconciled us unto God that we may be the people of God—the Church.

Every time you meet with His people, in His name, Christ is there by the Word and through the Spirit. He will be there! He will touch you.

What a privilege! What a blessing! This is God's purpose for you.





WHAT YOUTH CAMP ISTOME

MRS. TROY BAGGETT

OUTH CAMP is happy faces of young people from across the state who have gathered together for one glorious week of fun . . . young people who by nature are social beings . . . young people who do not experience the companionship of other Christian young people during the remainder of the year.

YOUTH CAMP represents hours of toil and preparation by many people; and the fulfillment is beholding one small uplifted face, bright from the glory of God, speaking for the first time in a clear and heavenly language.

YOUTH CAMP is teenage girls praying fervently for one precious camper who has tearfully expressed during nightly devotions that if Christ should come that night she fears she would not be ready.

YOUTH CAMP is the opportunity to counsel a precious young Christian who comes to you with

her problem. At these important times you experience a deep sense of inadequacy in self, but a total dependence on God and His wisdom.

YOUTH CAMP represents a group of jolly, self-sacrificing kitchen workers who prepare three balanced meals a day, on the dot. Any youth camper would tell you that they can cook better than "you know who."

YOUTH CAMP is healthy competition on the ball field and in the swimming pool—the counsclors-versus-campers ball game and various other sports—and experienced lifeguards dedicated to saving your child's life.

YOUTH CAMP is Spirit-anointed speakers and teachers who instruct and lead our young people to deeper experiences with Christ.

YOUTH CAMP represents dedicated counselors. Many work all year and give their one week of vacation to youth camp because they believe in its

What Youth Camp Is to Me

Continued

benefits; and many cheerfully announce, "It really is a vacation!"

YOUTH CAMP depends upon the camp directors, the faithful registrar who has much responsibility, and the camp nurse who works diligently (sometimes around the clock).

YOUTH CAMP is Youth Banquet on Friday night

when Mr. and Mrs. Youth Camper are crowned, and superlatives in the Scriptures, sports, and other areas are announced and awarded!

YOUTH CAMP is working together to accomplish this special week for our young people, prayerfully hoping that, in times like these, their souls may be salvaged for Christ.

YOUTH CAMP is many things to me! ☆

YOUTH CAMP IS GREAT!

Youth camp is not an end in itself: it is a tool waiting to be wielded through the guidance of the Holy Spirit for the salvation and spiritual growth of young people. Church of God youth camps are not designed to provide activity alone: they are designed to change lives.

In 1973, 25,412 campers and staff members enrolled in 121 Church of God youth camps. Lives were indeed changed: 4,891 were saved and 2,786 were sanctified and filled with the Holy Spirit.

Please pause right now and PRAISE GOD FOR YOUTH CAMP! And let's believe Him for an even greater camping season in 1974.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AND CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Dear Youth:

What would you say should be your biggest concern this summer? I know you are interested in clothes and activity and people — especially those of the opposite sex(!); and such interests are normal.

But beyond that, there can be a deeper, broader interest which you may feel keenest during a soul-searching church service or a time of private prayer.

I speak of a consuming concern for the salvation of your unsaved friends. The Lord puts that concern in your heart, for His chiefest interest is winning the lost. He would have you pray: "Let the things break my heart which break the heart of God."

You will remember the classic soul-winning chapter of the Bible — Luke 15. Throughout that chapter Christ bares His heart in response to an accusation that He loved sinners. I suggest you go to your Bible and read what our Lord said. Christ compared your unconverted friends to lost sheep, lost coins, and a lost son.

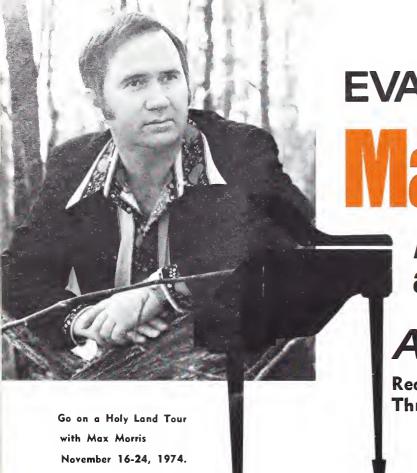
Lost sheep. Some of your young friends are like lost sheep. Gentle and kind — but lost. Either they have never known the protection of the fold, or they have known and then strayed away. The shepherd went after the lost sheep. Will you?

Lost coins. Then Jesus compared some of your friends to coins. They are valuable and could make good contributions to Christ's kingdom, but they are lost. They are so important that you should seek diligently until you find them for God.

Lost people. Finally, our Lord ceased to use symbols such as sheep and coins, and talked about a lost person. The Prodigal Son went far away; there he pondered his needs and then returned. Likewise, some of your youthful acquaintances may have wandered far from God and are now in a far country, spiritually. You may be able to bring them back to their Father.

This summer, then, let us be joyful, but not giddy; let's have a good time, but let's also be constantly mindful of the unsaved about us. By being prayerful, perceptive, and progressive, we can recover lost sheep, find lost coins, and lead prodigals back home.

--Clyne W. Buxton, Editor



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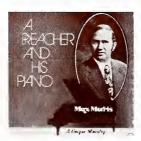
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You're Running Too Fast!

The biography of too many youths could be summed up in these three words: hurry, worry, bury. As Kenneth Fearing put it:

Zowie did he live and zowie did he die -Going wham to the office and bing home to bed;
Biff got married and bam had children -Zowie did he live and zowie did he die.

Of course, God would have young people to be up and doing. The one person that bothers Him more than the youth who tries to do everything must be the individual who does nothing. Nonetheless, the Lord would have us to slow down if we are prone to be always going and doing without taking time to study the Word and seek Him in prayer. An unknown poet prayed:

Drop thy still dews of quietness, Till all our strivings cease. Take from our souls the strain and stress, And let our ordered lives confess The beauty of Thy peace.

When Paul wrote Timothy, that youthful pastor, he did not say to hurry and worry the whole day through. Rather, he admonished him to, "Meditate upon these things; give thyself wholly to them; that thy profiting may appear to all" (I Timothy 4:15). Jesus periodically went aside and took His apostled men saying, "Come ye yourselves apart... and rest a while" (Mark 6:31).

The grand old hymn which our grandmothers sang suggests:

Take time to be holy, The world rushes on; Spend much time in secret With Jesus alone: By looking to Jesus Like Him thou shalt be; Thy friends in thy conduct His likeness shall see.

--William D. Longstaff

The Bible tells us about Jacob who for years had been busy making a living and getting ahead in the world. Then one day he decided to go back to Bethel, a place where he had once made vows to God. As he prepared for the return, he told his family and servants: "Put away the strange gods that are among you, and be clean, and change your garments: And let us arise, and go up to Beth-el; and I will make there an altar unto God" (Genesis 35:2, 3).

Perhaps you need to slow down and seek out your Bethel and there make an altar. If you have been living so fast that you have run past the prayer closet and the Bible, then Christ would say to you as He did to His disciples, "Come ye yourselves apart... and rest a while" (Mark 6:31).

Could the World End Today?

By W. H. COMPTON

he question is frequently asked, "Is it possible for the world to end today or tomorrow?" One who understands the Scriptures cannot but wonder how people arrive at the conclusion that the end may come immediately. Nowhere in the Bible is this doctrine taught.

Some say that if the wicked and cruel people would decide to destroy this world at any given time, they could do it. However, there is no way this could be done according to the Holy Scriptures. Portions of the world could be annihilated but not all of it.

In Acts 27:25 it is said, "I believe God, that it shall be even as it was told me." I realize that Paul was not talking about the end-time; but I, too, believe God and His Word, just as He has spoken relative to the end-time events. Therefore, I feel as Paul did, when he said, "I believe God." I believe God, and He has told us in His Word just exactly what will come to pass and ap-

proximately when. He doesn't leave us in doubt about His program and plan. There is no place in the Bible that teaches the end of all could come at any unexpected time. Rather, the Bible spells out the future step by step.

In fact, the sacred Scriptures have much to say about the future, and there are many things to come to pass before what many refer to as the end of the world. Actually the world will never be destroyed, but there will come an end to an age. This earth will exist forever and ever, but will go through a process to purify and cleanse it in a similar way as we went through a cleansing at conversion to make us a new creature or creation. The Bible refers to a new earth; but if we look at it properly, we will find it is to be made new by being purified by fire (2 Peter 3:7-13).

This age will end when Christ comes to the earth to reign for a thousand years. However, God's Word teaches that first the Rapture must take place. The Rapture has not transpired; therefore, the end-time as is expected by many is not here. Second, the Antichrist has not appeared on the scene yet, at least in power, as defined by the Holy Scriptures; and he must come before the end-times. Third, the great Tribulation has not arrived yet. Fourth, the Battle of Armageddon has never been fought, neither is it being fought today; but it, too, will arrive in its time.

The end cannot come until all these things which I have mentioned have come to pass. Even then, there will not be an end such as total annihilation of this earth. Many say that one could go to bed tonight and never see the dawn of another day. This could be true as far as the individual is concerned, but it would not be the end of the world.

According to the Bible there are yet many things that will come to pass before the end. God has a plan to go by, and He will not fail to follow His program just as stated in the Bible.



W. H. Compton

He has pastored Delbarton, West Virginia, for thirty-four years See the August, '73, LIGHTED PATHWAY if you would like to know more about his long pastorate.









his is a letter that Tim Sterbens wrote to Eddy, his best friend. Eddy knew that Tim had been kicked out of college and that his scholarship had been revoked because of drugs. Afterward, he saw Tim grow hard and bitter the more he grappled with hard drugs. Then Tim turned to Christ, and the transformation was remarkable.

"I'll never forget that day," Tim had witnessed to Eddy on one occasion, "when I stepped into the North Fort Myers Church of God, so filled with bitterness and hate. (The only reason I had gone to church was that Mom had found my stash of drugs and needles. She was upset; so I thought that my going to church would be of some consolation to her.)

"I was sitting on the back row when Pastor James Daniels said, 'Tim, come up here. I want to pray for you.' I thought, Give me a break. This guy has really got his nerve! Yet, I felt the most overpowering wave of love!

"You know what I did? I went up there and got prayed for!

"You know what else? Jesus didn't fail! Talk about a miracle—I was not the same person!"

And so when Tim saw Eddy beginning to experience the same frustrations that he himself had once faced, it was only natural that he should write the following letter to his friend, as dear as a brother.—Editor

Dear Eddy,

Drugs cheat. In the sports world it would be considered unfair to rev up your body with drugs in order to compete more efficiently. If something is to be meaningful, you must achieve it through discipline, control, and practice.

Exclude for now, however, the physiological effect of drugs. That's cheating, all right, but the analogy applies to the spiritual and psychological realms also.

Psychologically speaking, for your mind to grow and expand successfully and effectively also takes discipline. (Admittedly, it's a drag, but a necessary drag.) Talking, reading, thinking, listening (no, I mean hearing, really hearing, things: words, sounds . . .) and then appreciating them (whether you agree or disagree, whether you like or dislike) takes time. This is mindexpansion.

Spiritually, I lean heavily on God. I like real things. Religion--far too often--just isn't with it. Mysticism--the Edward Cayce trip, etc.--and drama bore me; they make me impatient.

Spiritual growth cannot be had through LSD or methedrene--it take becoming friends with God.

Just think: it has taken you and me time--talking, reading each other's words, etc.--to build the friendship we have. Well, God demands as much for His friendship: time, talking, reading His Word. . . . Does what I'm saying make sense to you?

I know this seems trite, and it may sound like a real drag; but it's just that simple.

Truth often escapes people because of its simplicity. God is really great; I'm so glad I know Him! Sad thing is, He is there for everybody, if they would just stop looking for a complicated answer to their seemingly complicated questions.

If there isn't enough trust (faith) between us, or if you cannot relate what I've said to your own experience, it probably won't do any good for me to say this; but here goes: Don't play games with your mind. You cannot shove everything into it at once! It takes time to absorb everything your senses perceive--and discipline to learn to perceive.

Drugs are unreal. Grass is a cheap toy that changes your perspective temporarily, but is of no particular benefit to your mind. Hard drugs are Nowheresville--they are one of Satan's biggest tools today. You can get hung up on drugs and build a whole world out of cotton candy, and never realize that you are literally blowing your whole world (or any world you may hope to have) and your mind--neither of which seems too cool to me.

What can I say? Try and believe me. If you don't believe all I'm saying, try to have faith in me--but, most of all, have faith in God. I care a lot about you--and I've been there. That I don't have to tell you--you remember some of the things at college.

Stop and think how the Lord had His hand on us! Just cool it for a while. Take time to regain your equilibrium. Find a new perspective.

Try finding out about God. Oh, when I think of His goodness and mercies--where He's brought me from--I'm lost for words! David said, "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path")Psalm 119:105). What an understatement!

God has never failed me yet; and after Him, you're the best friend I've got--and that's going some.

Love, Tim

By SKIP REESE

SMALL WORLD, HUH?

he plane was crowded when I went aboard, but the stewardess led me to a vacant seat about halfway back.

It was the usual three-seats-together arrangement, and the window seat was occupied by an older woman who was dozing, an open magazine in her lap. A guy about my age sat near the aisle, reading. I squeezed past him and took my place.

After I was comfortably seated, I leaned toward the window to wave good-bye to my parents. We were so late arriving that I had barely had time for a fast kiss and a handshake.

"I think you're supposed to have your seat belt fastened now," the guy near the aisle said, indicating the sign directly above me.

"Oh, yeah," I agreed, quickly buckling mine. "Didn't even notice. This is my first flight."

"It's a short one, but kind of nice," he told me. "We'll be in San Francisco in less than an hour—once we take off, that is."

"Sounds like you've flown a lot."

"Not really," he admitted, grinning. "This is only my second time. The first was when I flew down here to Los Angeles to visit my grandmother last week."

"Oh, you're going back home then?" I asked.

"Right. How about you?"

"No, I live here. I'm just flying up to spend a couple days with my cousin before school starts."

"You'll like it," he promised.
"LA is all right—I mean you have
a lot of places to go and things
to see—but San Francisco is sort
of special in a different way.
"You'll see what I mean."

The plane started moving down the runway at that moment;

and I sat back rigidly in my seat, eyes shut.

"What are you doing?" my seatmate wanted to know. "Praying?"

"Not really," I answered, although it might have been a good idea. "Just preparing myself for the takeoff."

"Then I'm afraid you'll be disappointed. We'll hardly feel it."

I opened my eyes. "Are you sure?"

"I'm sure. By the way, my name's Pete Conners."

"Nice to meet you, Pete," I said, shaking his hand. "I'm Skip Reese."

"Now, wasn't I right?" he asked.

I frowned. "About what?"

"The takeoff. You hardly felt it, right?"

I stared out the window. We were airborne! "I didn't feel it at all! I thought we were still taxing!"

"Ah, yes, the wonders of modern aviation," he muttered, doing a perfect imitation of W. C. Fields.

"Hey, that's pretty good!" I told him. "Are you still in school, Pete?"

"Yeah, I'll be a scnior this year. You?"

"Same. Got most of the requirements out of the way last term, though, so I can work part-time."

"What kind of work do you do?" he wanted to know.

"Box boy at a market," I replied. "I worked full time during the summer, and should average about twenty hours a week when school starts. Do you have a job?"

"You aren't going to believe this," he told me. "But I also work at a market! Just about the same deal you have, too. Don't think I could handle twenty hours a week during school, though."

"What's your major?"

"Math-science."

My mouth probably dropped open about ten inches. "You're kidding! That's my major!"

"Small world, huh?" he said, nodding his head. Then he frowned. "But how can you possibly work twenty hours a week with a math-science major?"

"I went to summer school last year," I explained. "It helped a lot. Of course I'd rather not work so much; but if I'm going to college a year from now, I don't have a choice."

"You must be going to a private

college," Pete decided.

"Yes, I am," I replied. I almost told him the name of it, but didn't. It was a well-known Christian college and mentioning it would've given me a perfect opening for sharing my faith in Christ.

Go on! I ordered myself. Not yet, I answered cautiously. You're getting along great with this guy. Don't rush into witnessing so soon. Get to know him better first.

"Have you picked out a

college?" I questioned.

"Yeah, it's a small school up north," he replied. "The college might be small, but the tuition isn't!"

"I know what you mean," I said.

"Would you gentlemen like coffee, tea, or milk?" the stewardess asked suddenly.

"Milk," Pete and I said at the same time. Then we laughed.

"Small world, all right," I told Pete.

"I guess we won't wake her up," the stewardess added, indicating the older woman sitting next to me. She had been sleeping almost continuously since takeoff. An occasional snore had punctuated our conversation.

"What are you planning to be?" Pete wanted to know when the stewardess had gone on to the next row. "After college, I mean."

"I'm really not sure," I answered. I usually said, "Whatever the Lord calls me to be," when people asked that question at church; but it seemed out of place with someone who had been a total stranger just a few minutes earlier.

Of course, it might be a good way of getting into the spiritual area, I thought. I'd be able to tell

in an instant if Pete knew what I was talking about, and if he was at all interested in Christianity.

No, you'd better wait, I argued with myself. Might turn him off completely. Keep it nice and light

for a while longer.

"It's a big decision, all right," Pete agreed. "I don't know what I'll be, either. But there's no rush. You're in college for at least four years, and have to get all the required stuff out of the way before you start on a major anyway."

"That's true. Do you go out for

any sports, Pete?"

He grinned. "Are you kidding? I'm the Mark Spitz of San Francisco!"

Go on! I ordered myself. Not yet, I answered cautiously.

"What else do you like to do?" he asked.

"I play a little tennis," I replied. "Not very good, though. How about you?"

"The world's worst," he said.
"I'm pretty good at basketball, though."

"So am I!"

"Man, I can't believe how much we have in common!" Pete told me. "It's really weird how we happened to be seated next to each other."

"Yeah, sure is," I answered. Or were we put together for a purpose? I wondered silently.

Small World, Huh?

Continued

When I was preparing for my trip to San Francisco, J had thought maybe I'd have a chance to do some witnessing. My pastor at church often told us about some experience he had had on a flight, sharing Christ with a stranger. Several of them had accepted Christ, too. He made it sound so easy.

It wasn't, though—not for me. The openings were there, but I let each one pass, not wanting to rush into it. Somehow I was afraid of what Pete would say, or think.

"Well, it won't be long," Pete announced suddenly.

"What won't?"

"We're almost there," he explained. "I told you it was a short flight. Of course it always goes faster when you're talking to somebody. It was really great meeting you, Skip."

"Thank you, Pete. It was great meeting you, too." I swallowed. We would be landing in a few minutes, and I had blown my chance to tell Pete about Jesus Christ.

"Tell you what," Pete went on.
"I'll give you my phone number.
If there's time, and your cousin doesn't mind, maybe we can get together one day."

"Yeah, I'd like that," I replied.

Maybe I'll have a chance, after all!

He wrote down the number and gave it to me.

"Are we here already?" the woman sitting next to me asked, yawning.

"Just about," I told her. "You slept through the whole flight!" "Didn't even get your free drink," Pete added with a grin. "They give champagne to all adults, you know!"

"I'd sooner drink dishwater!" she snorted. "I'm a Christian, and I'm not about to pickle my brain with liquor!"

Pete and I remained silent.

"I have some tracts here I'd like to give you boys," she went on, digging in her purse. "Unless you've already been saved by the Lord Jesus Christ. Have you?"

It was a direct question, and I couldn't dodge it—regardless of what it might do to my invitation from Pete.

It would've been easy to put all the blame on Satan, but there had to be more to it than that.

"Yes, I am," I told her.

"And you?" she asked, staring at Pete.

"Yes, ma'am," he replied. "I accepted Christ over four years ago."

"Praise the Lord!" the woman exclaimed happily. "Then I'll just save these tracts for someone else!"

I looked at Pete. "You're a Christian? Really?"

He nodded. "Don't know why you should be so surprised, Skip. We have everything else in common!"

"That's right," I agreed. "But man, both Christians! This really is a small world!" "I almost said something to you about it," Pete admitted. "But I just couldn't get started. That's the main reason I gave you my phone number, in fact. I thought maybe I'd witness to you, if we got together."

"And that's why I took it!" I told him. "And I almost said something to you! There were so many great openings, too, starting when you asked me if I was praying during takeoff, and then the college I was going to, and what I was going to be."

"It's funny," Pete said, frowning. "We talked about everything else with no problem."

"Yeah, funny," I repeated. But it wasn't really funny at all. It was tragic. Sure, Pete and I were both Christians, so it didn't really matter if we witnessed to each other or not.

But that wasn't the point. Neither of us *knew* the other was a believer, and still we spent almost an hour in the air, side by side, talking about every subject imaginable—about everything except Jesus Christ!

"Still want me to call you?" I asked Pete as we were leaving the plane.

"More than ever," he replied. "Maybe together we can figure out why we kept Jesus a secret."

I nodded. It would've been easy to put all the blame on Satan, but there had to be more to it than that.

"Good idea," I said. "I have a flight back to LA in a few days, you know."

I was going to be ready for it, too! ⊠

By W. L. (BILL) HOPPER

Birth of a Song

was driving down the highway, thinking about the goodness of God, and marveling at His handiwork, when suddenly I burst into song—a song that I had never heard before.

I sang the first verse and the chorus before I realized that God was giving me a new song. I went home and wrote it down, gave it a one-word title ("Who?"), and it became one of the most popular songs that I have ever written.

When I was only a lad, words would come to me; and I would sing them to the tunes of modern songs of that time. Later on I would even think of tunes to go with the words; but I was not able to write the tunes down so that others could sing them.

I wrote different publishers who advertised: Send me your words, and I will set them to music and get them ready to be published. I discovered, however, that their prices were exorbitant, as much as a month's salary at that time. Then, too, they wanted a royalty agreement if by chance they ever made any money. It was, then, that I decided to learn to write my own music.

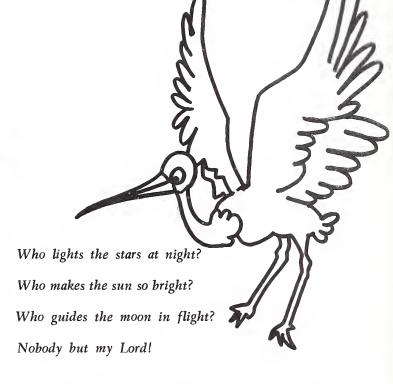
I had no money for music lessons, not even for books; so I went to men that I knew could help me. But they were all too busy. So I dug it out the hard way. I would take an old hymn that I knew well, notice the shape and location of the notes on the staff, and peck out the tune, one-finger-style, on an old piano, until I could recognize the sound of the tone. Soon I was writing my own melodies.

I was later able to purchase rudiment books and books on harmony. I attended a few singing schools, where I learned more about chords and modulation; and soon I was writing all my own music.

When my songs began coming out in books, people began coming to me with words, wanting me to help them with the music. I never forgot how badly I needed help in the early days and couldn't get it.

So I said yes. I have helped people write their music, have written music to their words, and have helped make it possible for many beautiful songs to be brought out for the glory of God.

And I did it without charging a month's salary!



I charge only a few dollars—just enough so that the songwriters will feel that they have something invested and will not throw the composition away.

Many of the world's greatest songwriters never learned to set their lyrics to music. Fanny J. Crosby—who gave us "Blessed Assurance," "Near the Cross," "Tell Me the Story of Jesus," and many other old-time favorites—never learned to write music. She seemed too busy getting new inspirations for words to worry with the mechanics of music.

Herbert Buffamm—who wrote "When I Take My Vacation in Heaven," "When I Make My Last Move," "Lift Me Up Above the Shadows," and others—was not a music-writer.

The Reverend Johnson Oatman, Jr.—who gave us such all-time favorites as "When Our Lord Shall Come Again," "The Hallelujah Side," "When the Redeemed Are Gathering In," to name just a few—wrote only the words.

Perhaps you, too, have been inspired to write words for a song and don't know what to do with them. Don't throw them away. They may be just what the world needs in these dark days. Remember: If they were inspired of God, they were given for a purpose. Use them!



W. L. (Bill) Hopper

A regular contributor to the *Lighted Pathway*, Hopper pastors the Church of God in Mineral Wells, Texas.



A Son-MAN'S PRIDE AND JOY

Man: My son, you bring me such joy.

God: My Son, will You die for the sins of all mankind?

Man: My son, I hope you will have success.

God: My Son, death will stalk and overtake You, but

it will not triumph over You.

Man: My son, I hope you will be happy.

God: My Son, You will be a man of sorrow and acquainted

with grief.

Man: My son, you are my own flesh and I love you.

God: My Son, You became a human being and lived

on the earth among men; You are full of loving forgiveness and truth. Some men have seen Your

glory—the glory of the only Son of God.

Singing with all of their hearts, the Lee Singers ministered effectively



This group from the Lee Singers formed a unique quintet.



Carl Richardson, minister, reminded those present that millions across the nation would view the telecast this fall.



Burdened to glorify Christ, Steve Brock ministered in song.

FIRST NATIONWIDE CHURCH OF GOD TELEVISION SPECIAL



Hours of grueling rehearsal never dampened the vibrant enthusiasm of the Lee Singers for a single moment.

A New World Is Coming!

By CARL RICHARDSON

ccording to experts in today's world, we have some very real and very big problems.

Ecologists say that eventually we will pollute ourselves right off

this planet.

Agriculturalists tell us that we are sure to starve mankind into extinction.

Military experts believe that eventually somebody somewhere will push the nuclear button and man will be annihilated from the face of the earth.

Population experts seem to think that we will *people* ourselves out of existence.

The various forecasts for the future look gloomy. But contrary to all the bad news and depressing forecasts, those of us who know Christ are excited about the future, and we have some amazing evidence to support our optimism.

Nobody can reach this nation alone.
I know that I cannot.

We know that Jesus is coming again soon. We know this not only from the signs of the times, but we know it "in the Spirit." Literally millions of people, however, do *not* know this urgent fact.

The Church of God will make a gigantic effort in sharing this vital truth in its first nationwide color television special this fall. Details of time and channels will appear in late summer and early autumn.

The taping session on Friday evening, May 31, in Los Angeles, California, was especially anointed by the Holy Spirit.

Dr. Delton Alford and the Lee Singers were just fabulous! Hours of grueling rehearsal and preparation never dampened their vibrant enthusiasm for a single moment. Dr. Alford wrote the various musical arrangements and was greatly assisted by Jerry Long, a talented Lee College instructor, in writing the orchestral score.

Steve Brock, national evangelist, sang a moving medley concerning Christ's soon return and beautifully set the mood for the message.

Al Taylor, administrative assistant in the Radio-Television Department, not only hosted the telecast but coordinated the various aspects of the busy days that preceded the taping session.

Regular prayer meetings punctuated this memorable week, as all of us realized that we simply had to have God's anointing upon our efforts. Each of us went into the taping session with a strong sense of God's presence upon us.

Getting this telecast on video tape was a major step, but very frankly, the work is just now beginning. Television stations are now being contacted concerning purchase of prime evening-time in many major areas. Their representatives view the tape to be sure that the telecast is of primetime quality before agreeing to sell air-time and in some cases preempt one of their network programs.

It costs money to take the gospel into literally millions of homes through color television—lots of money. But I am encouraged by the fact that preliminary funding for non-air-time costs is coming in from a broad cross section of our church.

A teenage girl in North Carolina sends us a portion of her babysitting money each week.

A widow shares a portion of her monthly pension check.

A youth group recently sponsored a "TV dinner," (not the frozen food variety), with all proceeds going to the television special.

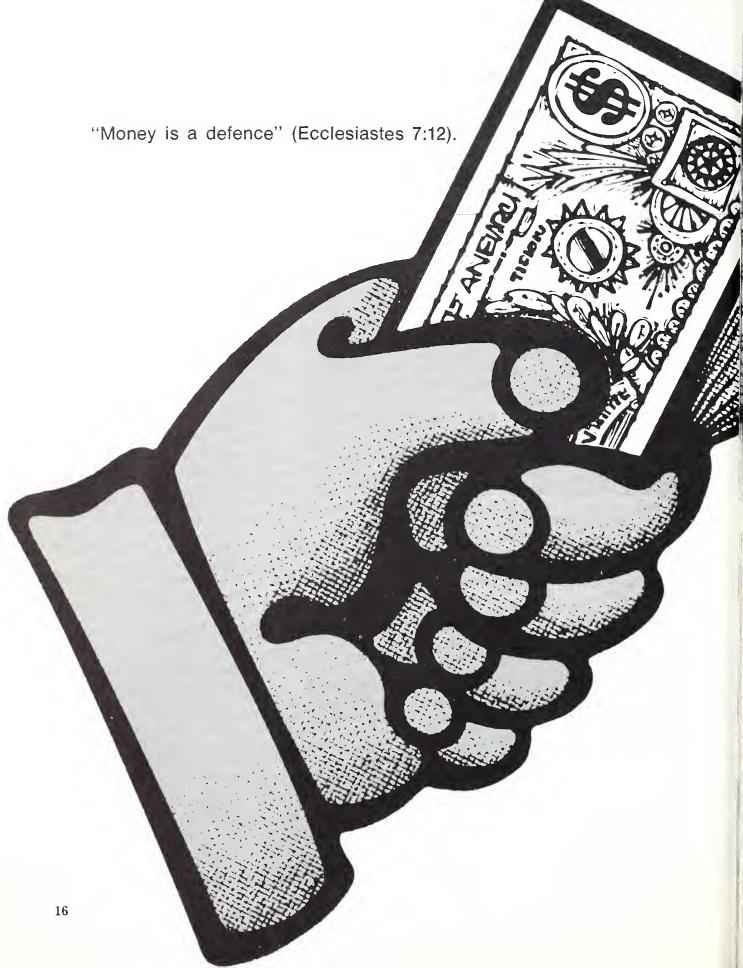
An Ohio church recently raised over two thousand dollars in cash and thirty-day pledges for this evangelistic effort.

A retired minister and his wife from Florida sent one hundred dollars and said that they "felt proud to have a part."

In fact, before autumn I am strongly believing that God will speak to no less than ten thousand committed Christians to become financially involved in this gigantic evangelistic outreach.

Nobody can reach this nation alone. I know that I cannot. But by each of us and all of us working together and sharing together, we can do it.

There is so much we can do together.



money is very itself is root of all Money to this som tion worth

By O. WAYNE CHAMBERS

good starting point for all subjects related to life is the Bible. We find that using and managing money goes back to the days before Abraham, and we have abundant evidence to the use of

money in the biblical records.

The important lesson to be learned in this article, perhaps, is that the difference between financial success and failure lies not in how much money we have, but in how well we manage the resources that are available to us.

Money management can be very frustrating to youth. Unfortunately, many bad money-managing habits have been learned from parents. As we attempt to discuss the subject of managing money, is it any wonder that we begin to feel like a participant in the following conversation:

"Will you tell me which way I ought to go from here?"

"Depends on where you want to get to," replied the Cheshire cat.

"Well, I really don't very much care," replied Alice.

"Then, it doesn't matter much which way you go," said the cat.

While at this point we really can't say exactly where we want to "get to" on the question of managing money, we do want to explore a few thoughts regarding the subject.

One of the first lessons we should observe is that

money is valuable and necessary in our society. Money itself is not evil; only "the *love* of money is the root of all evil" (1 Timothy 6:10).

Money talks, according to a timeworn cliche; and to this someone has added, "It's the only conversation worth listening to." Alan Dorsey also had this comment, "That money talks I will agree. It always says good-bye to me."

Most can remember the first encounter they had with money. Your very first banking experience was no doubt with Piggy Bank, Inc., or the 50c-a-week allowance. (Can you remember how you spent your allowance?) Although we are now concerned with managing larger sums of money, the principles are the same.

Keep Matthew 7:7 in mind when considering money matters.

Youth are now managing more money than at any time in history. They spend millions each year on food, clothes, records, cars, and education.

To get the most out of money, one very important element is preeminent—planning. Making financial plans is one of the first concrete steps a youth makes when looking ahead to a change.

Parents and teenagers should start planning for college or a career early in the teen years. It takes a lot of money to go to college. It will cost even more in the future.

Edwin Newman of NBC in a recent TV news special said that the cost could go as high as \$17,000 by 1980. With this possibility in mind, we must realize that it is going to take a lot of financial planning to go to college for four years or longer.

Managing Your Money

Continued

Perhaps we should ask if a college education is really worth all the money it costs. With each passing year, education has become more highly valued in the determination of man's actual or potential contribution to society. The relationship between education and income is shown in the following Census Bureau estimates of lifetime income for men:

Years of school	1966 income		
completed	(age 18 to death)		
Total	\$321,000		
Elementary:			
	189,000		
	247,000		
High school:			
1 to 3 years	284,000		
4 years	341,000		
College:			
1 to 3 years	394,000		
	542,000		
	587,000		

Source: Current Population Reports, Consumer Income, Series P-60, Number 56, August 14, 1968, Bureau of the Census, page 9.

Clearly, the data seem to bear out the theme, "If you want a good job, get a good education."

Let's talk about a few basics. One of the best ways to plan is to prepare a *budget*. J. Edgar Hoover once said that a *budget* is "telling your money where to go instead of wondering where it went."

Changing Times magazine stated that a budget is "a system of reminding yourself that you can't afford the kind of living you've grown accustomed to."

Seriously, what is a budget?

A budget is "a systematic plan for spending money in such a way as to get the most out of it." In spite of this, budgets are unpopular. But budgets can be practical, interesting, and not too painful. The main objective of a personal budget is to enable one to live within his income or resources.

What should be included in a student budget? The experts say that every budget should include six general headings: housing, food, clothing, personal items, educational costs, and books and supplies.

In order to pay for the above items you will need \$1,900 to \$6,000 each year, depending on where you attend college. At Lee College the budget of single students is \$2,675; for married students it totals \$5,860. So you see, it takes a great deal of planning to meet the rising cost of education even for the youth.

Don't let the high cost that has been projected get you down. There is plenty of help for students who need financial assistance. More than \$4 billion in financial aid to students will be available in 1974-1975. Many answers to your money problems may be solved by investigating the financial opportunities which are available at over 2,500 colleges and universities.

Keep Matthew 7:7 in mind when considering money matters. Also, see your high school counselor or contact the college student aid officer for guidance. There is no reason for a student to be denied access to higher education because of the lack of financial resources.

Once you decide to go or to remain in college, consider the following:

- 1. Plan a year in advance. Your high school counselor or college student aid officer will assist you.
- 2. Budget your income—set up priorities.
- 3. Open a personal checking account with a local bank. (This experience in money-managing will be invaluable to vou later.)
- 4. Beware of the fallacy that claims two can live as cheap as one. Almost 30 percent of college students are married. Investigate your financial resources before saying, "I do."
- 5. Beware of "easy" money; that is, credit cards and personal loans.
- 6. Seek advice before borrowing moncy. There are many ways to save if you borrow from the right source.
- 7. Build a good credit rating.

Money is, perhaps, more difficult to manage than it is to earn. The old Amish proverb still holds true: "Spend less than you earn, and you'll never be in debt."

Remember: good managers of money have more fun!

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Stop and Listen!

By DONALD L. HUGHES

State Youth and Christian Education Director, Montana



creams! Thrills! Excitement!

These terms describe the penetrating and emotional environ-

ment which can be found across our nation and the world, as youth of today respond to the new sound of secular music. The syncopated rhythms, the glaring volume, and the deceptive lyrics are having a tremendous influence upon the tender and soulsearching lives of our youth.

The rhythm of music has for many years and even centuries been recognized as a controlling factor in establishing the many moods of man. An example of this can be found in 1 Samuel 16:14-23, when David was brought before King Saul to play his harp. As a result, King Saul was refreshed and the evil spirit departed from him.

Today, rhythm is not only being used as an instrument of God, but also as a device of Satan to capture the minds, the emotions, and the precious mo-

ments of our youth.

As Christian youth, we must also be aware that the devil plays upon the words or lyrics of today's songs to create influential impressions. Many of the lyrics of today's songs are contrary to the teachings and commandments of God.

Profanity is becoming commonplace as found in such songs as "Bad, Bad, Leroy Brown."

Sex, once a hush-hush item, is very open today; and composers are taking advantage. Songs such as "Harper Valley PTA," "Behind Closed Doors," "If It Feels

Good, Do It," and "They Call Him the Streak" are depicting a degenerating generation. throughout God's Word, adultery and fornication are condemned as acts of sin and are said to result in God's judgment.

The song "Tell Me a Lie" leaves the impression that lying is okay if you get the results you want. But the Bible tells us in Revelation 21:8 that "all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone." What a way to spend eternity!

Of greater importance than those already mentioned, however, are songs which trod upon the divinity of God and the Trinity. Many times we become engulfed in the rhythmic or harmonic structure of a song, and the lyrics slip by us unnoticed—such as in the popular song "Delta Dawn."

The lyrics of this song describe a woman who is waiting for her man to come and take her to his mansion in the sky. The man is described as one of low degree, and his expected arrival is an event of uncertainty. This scene is characterizing our Lord's soon return; however, we as Christians know that His return is a definite event and that our preparedness lies not in the physical sense but in the spiritual.

Let us, therefore, be aware of our responsibilities as Christian youth and put on the whole armor of God to help us in repelling the devil and the many devices he uses to capture our attention. 🔀

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This sermon, though preached to Sunday school and youth workers, is certainly applicable to youth. I was privileged to hear the message, and asked for the manuscript so the Lighted Pathway readers could be helped by it. Sim A. Wilson, pastor of the Church of God in South Boston, Virginia, gave the address at the recent Northwest Team Training Seminar in Minot, North Dakota.

—Clyne W. Buxton, editor

By SIM A. WILSON



eommittee of inquirers were sent to interrogate a very unusual man—John the Baptist. The di-

alogue ended with a daring declaration by John: "I am the voice of one erying in the wilderness, Make straight the way of the Lord" (John 1:23).

The term *voice* describes the role of a Christian worker in a confused world. The Christian can truly say, "I am a voice!"

To assume the role of a voice "erying in the wilderness" requires real dedication. Only a completely consecrated man would be willing to let go of his own identity in order to work for such a great cause.

John the Baptist was that kind of man. What little the Bible says of him reveals him as a man of principles. He was always aware of the One greater than himself. He was completely willing to hide himself in Christ—just as the dawn disappears into the splendor of the morning sun. With the chance to be anything he desired, John the Baptist chose to be only what God had called him to be—a voice "crying in the wilderness."

The Christian worker of today would do well to seek the qualities that characterize a spiritual voice in a secular world.

The first quality of a voice is willingness to listen.

Before John embarked on his great mission, he was alone in the wilderness growing and gaining strength, "till the day of his shewing unto Israel" (Luke 1:80). The record declares, "The word of God came unto John . . . in the wilderness. And he came . . . preaching" (Luke 3:2, 3). John's mission is described as his being "the prophet of the Highest," "going before the face of the Lord," "giving knowledge of salvation," "giving light to them that sit in darkness," "guiding feet into the way of peace."

A man must receive the Word before he can speak the Word. He must hear the voice of God before he can be a voice for God.

In listening, he receives enlightenment, revelation, and understanding.

Consider the wisdom of Elihu: "There is a spirit in man: and the inspiration of the Almighty giveth them understanding" (Job 32:8). Think about the wisdom of David: "Thou wilt light my candle: the Lord my God will enlighten my darkness" (Psalm 18: 28).

Listen to the voice of God. He speaks through the Word of God in study. He speaks through the Spirit of God in prayer. He speaks through the man of God in worship.

Listen to the cries of mankind. They cry out for love. They cry out for understanding. They cry out for reality and direction.

Keep still before the Lord. Hear from God before attempting to speak for Him. This time of solitude will produce Christian growth and spiritual strength that will indeed make you a voice "crying in the wilderness."

The second quality of a voice is readiness to speak. With a voice one can utter words, express opinions, convey sentiments, declare position, and state principles.

John the Baptist indeed had

courage enough to speak out. This voice said to a nation seething in sin, "Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand" (Matthew 3:2). This voice said to a king living in adultery, "It is not lawful for thee to have her" (Matthew 14:4). This voice said to a religion thriving in hypocrisy, "O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance" (Matthew 3:7, 8). This voice said to a world searching in desperation, "Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world" (John 1:29). This voice said to his own followers in humility, "He must increase, but I must decrease" (John 3:30).

In John 10:41 there is a remarkable statement: "John did no miracle: but all things that John spake of this man were true." He was no miracle-worker—just a true voice. His chief business was to voice a witness for Christ. Everything else was secondary. Christ said of John, "Among them that are born of women there hath not risen a greater than John the Baptist" (Matthew 11:11).

John was content to be only a voice, to be heard but not to be seen. He was a reflector, not the Light itself; a mirror whose image is lost from view when it reflects the dazzling glory of the Sun.

John was a voice of love and compassion. The word *crying* describes a man whose heart is touched and who is himself affected by that with which he is trying to affect others.

John was a voice of authority and Truth.

The wilderness speaks of confusion and silence where men can become lost. In a wilderness of religious confusion, the Christian worker must raise a direct and positive voice. There is no uncertainty nor ambiguity in the words, "make straight," "prepare," "repent," "get ready."

These expressions are fitting to a Christian's vocabulary today. Sometimes Christian workers are so afraid of getting out on a limb that they fail to get into the tree.

It is time for the gospel to speak out. A King David must feel the rebuke of a Nathan. A King Saul must hear the rebuff of a Samuel. A King Ahab must fear the message of an Elijah. A King Herod must hear the reproof of John the Baptist. A Governor Felix must be made to

In an age of apparent hopelessness, a voice of hope must be heard.

tremble at the testimony of a Paul. A Philippian jailor must be brought to his knees in prayer. The clear clarion trumpet of Truth must be sounded. A voice of authority must be heard in the wilderness of sin.

A voice of hope must be heard in an age of apparent hopeless-

ness. To a world in crisis, a voice cries, "Get ready for the coming of the Lord." As the first coming of the Lord was the hope of the ancient world, so the second coming of the Lord is the hope of the modern world.

Though scientists predict nuclear annihilation—or, if time permits, the environmental extermination of man from his own planet—the Christian knows that the Bible promises the return of Christ. After this, God will create a new heaven and earth in which peace and righteousness will reign forever.

Christian workers must fill their role in this world by being a voice "crying in the wilderness, Make straight the way of the Lord."

Some may remember reading in grammar school history books about the awe-inspiring spectacle in the heavens which occurred over New England during the past century. It is reported that at noonday the heavens became totally dark and stars shot in all directions. People were thrown into panic and hysteria because they thought the end of the world had come.

During the excitement, a young girl ran into the home of a devoted saint and cried out, "The world is coming to an end!"

In all serenity this Christian worker turned to the girl and replied, "The world is coming to an end? Let it. We can get along without it."

A voice must declare to this generation: "If this world passes away, we have hope in another."

Teen Music Festival

Monday, August 5, 8:00-10:00 p.m.

Theater, Memorial Auditorium

Featuring: Teen Talent Presentations

David and Virginia Horton; Brooks Singers; Sammy Hall Singers; Churchmen Trio

Teen Talent National Finals

Music Division

Tuesday, August 6, 12:00 noon—Saturday, August 10, 3:00 p.m.

Theater, Memorial Auditorium

Art Division

Tuesday, August 6, 9:00 a.m.—Saturday, August 10, 5:00 p.m.

Room 205, Memorial Auditorium

Writing Division

Tuesday, August 6, 9:00 a.m.—Saturday, August 10, 5:00 p.m.

Room 205, Memorial Auditorium

Two Teen Action Rallies

Tuesday, August 6, 7:30 p.m.

Theater, Memorial Auditorium

Featuring: Bob and Carol Champion; Brooks Singers; Fred D. Killman

Wednesday, August 7, 7:30 p.m.

Theater, Memorial Auditorium

Featuring: Swilley Family; Sammy Hall Singers; Flynn Johnson

Three Children's Action Rallies

Thursday, August 8, 7:30 p.m.

Theater, Memorial Auditorium

Conducted by Lynn and Mary Ruth Stone

Featuring: Doug and Wanda LeRoy; Jerry Williams Family; Doyle Stanfield

Friday, August 9, 7:30 p.m.

Theater, Memorial Auditorium

Conducted by Bill and Elaine Wooten

Featuring: Wilbur and Grace Thrush; Steve Triplett and Rene Pyeatt;

W. A. Davis

Saturday, August 10, 7:30 p.m.

Theater, Memorial Auditorium

Conducted by Billy and Brenda O'Neal

Featuring: Wilbur and Grace Thrush; Don Stovall Family; Sylvia King

Teen Afterglow

Friday, August 9, 10:00 p.m.

Baker Hotel, Crystal Ballroom

Featuring: Dan McBride

Teen Talent and General Department Awards Festival

Saturday, August 10, 10:00 p.m.

Theater, Memorial Auditorium

Spotlighting: National Winners

Featuring: Nancy Harmon and the Victory Voices

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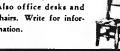
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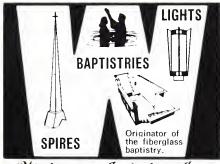
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Prepared and produced by Pathway Press Available now from the Church of God Publishing House, 922 Montgomery Avenue, Cleveland, Tennessee 37311.

LOOKING YOUR BEST

By BRENDA AND LARRY HESS

State Youth and Christian Education Director, Colorado

ow do I look? Do others like my appearance? these questions through your go mind, then don't worry; it's probably because you're normal. It would be a little odd if you never thought about your physical structure—things such as big muscles or an attractive figure. We know for a fact that many times our popularity and social acceptance depend on our appearance.

We live in a rapidly changing world. Fashions change, styles change, opinions concerning past customs change; and all these changes cause us to change, to some extent, with the times. However, there is something that has never changed; that is, God's love and His concern for you. He cares about you! It matters to Him if you are popular and accepted by society.

God's desire for your life is that you be an effective example for Him. He wants you to live in such a way that other young people will be convinced that God loves them and that in Him they can find reality, truth, and joy.

First of all, what kind of God is it that you are to represent? Is He a harsh, unreasonable, over-

demanding, unconcerned God? Or, is He what you have always heard: a loving, compassionate, understanding God who is concerned about you? The God you are to represent is a holy and pure God who is without sin and who takes a great deal of pride in you, His creation. He wants you to live a life committed to Him. In order to live this committed life you must know the basics and the rules of the game.

Concerning dress, the basic rule of the game is that one should not go to extremes in regard to appearance. *Modesty* is the key word. Throughout the Bible we have references to modesty, moderation, temperance, and not going to extremes. God doesn't want you to look like you just stepped out of a history book. He simply wants you to take pride in the way you look and dress. Remember: you represent Him in a world that is seeking a better way!

Here in Boulder a few nights ago, over a thousand students from the University of Colorado participated in a recent rage called "streaking." They were parading all over campus completely naked. This is another diabolical scheme of Satan to try to make people think there is nothing sacred or pure about the body. It is Satan's desire to strip man of his dignity and of any sense of pride in being created in the image of God and thus bring man to the level of animals.

Young Person, when you dress immodest, indecent, and in such a way as to try to make your body enticing and alluring, you not only lose any effectiveness you might have in witnessing for God; but you also lose your dignity and appear as cheap merchandise.

In the Bible God did not give us a catalog displaying samples of dress that meet His standards. What He did give us is a principle to live by which is relevant to any generation. That principle is to love God with all that is within us (Matthew 22:37) and to present our bodies a living sacrifice to God (Romans 12:1).

You must realize that your body is the temple of the indwelling Holy Spirit. You do not belong to yourself; you were bought at a price. Therefore, honor and glorify God in your body (1 Corinthians 6:19, 20).

An excellent guideline in determining whether something is right or wrong is found in Colossians 3:17—"And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God." If you can pray about something and give thanks to the Lord, believing that this thing will make you a better Christian and also will bring glory to God, then you are on the right track. If you can't pray about it this way, then you ought not to be doing it!

To look your best, always take pride in the way you adorn your body, being conscious of the fact that you belong to God. For it does matter to Him that your adornment aid rather than kill your effectiveness in being a positive witness for Christ.



Cecil R. Guiles

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"IT MATTERS TO HIM"

October 11, 12, 13



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General Director

Floyd D. Carey
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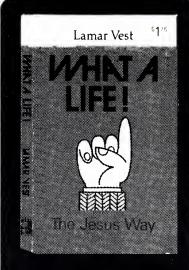
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By Lamar Vest

ABOUT THE BOOK:

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WHAT A LIFE! is an excellent volume for use ih the Sunday school for thirteen Sundays (one quarter) instead of the regular curriculum. Also, the book is practical for a quarter of mid-week study in the local church.

ABDUT THE AUTHOR:

A native South Carolinian, Lamar Vest is one of the youngest men ever to be licensed by the Church of God. Mr. Vest became a licensed minister at the age of

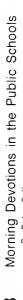
He attended Lander College and Clemson University. He has pastored two churches in his native state.

Mr. Vest has served his church as state director of youth and Christian education in three states and is presently an ad-ministrative assistant in the General Youth and Christian Education Department of his denomination.

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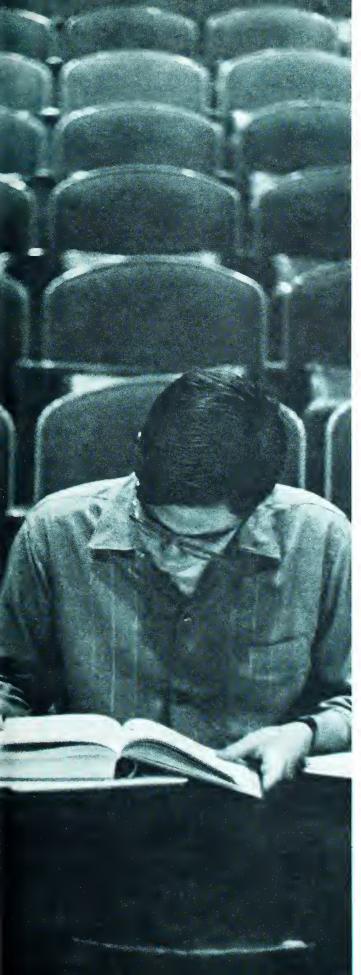


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Morning Devotions in the Public Schools

BY RIDGE CULLUM

efore-school devotions are designed to bring Christ into the school and to provide an opportunity for students to pray and worship before beginning the school day.

The devotion group is not a club or an organization. It is an interdenominational idea open to any student who desires to start a before-school devotional period. The only requirement of the organizer is that he be an enthusiastic Christian.

Earnest prayer is important. When you see that several students have become interested because of your own enthusiastic beliefs, try to get them to join you in prayer. Then go to the principal and ask permission to begin a devotion-time for the entire student body. He will probably be glad to cooperate with you because devotions would actually take place before school begins.

Next, you will need to choose a place to have the devotions. This could be the cafeteria, the auditorium, the library, the conference room, a classroom, the music room, or any other available room. However, it should be a place where there is not too much noise.

When a place has been chosen, set a beginning date. Do not put it off—do it at once! Start as soon as you possibly can. Tell the students that devotions will start on a certain day. Ask them to come and to bring a friend.

At first, there may be little response. But always remember: the success of the devotional period cannot be determined by the number of people who attend! Invite students in a pleasant, cheerful way to attend devotions, being careful not to antagonize anyone who does not want to come. When you get discouraged, pray and leave the matter to God. Always urge group members to invite others. Students who do not know about the devotions, of course, cannot come; so announce the meetings over the intercom, if possible.

Devotions should be held every morning without

MORNING DEVOTIONS IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Continued

fail! One sure way for them to die is for the group to miss having them a few mornings.

Devotions should also be kept very short—about ten or fifteen minutes before the bell rings for homeroom. Their brevity will encourage more people to attend.

Keep the devotions simple by having a Scripture reading and a few words on what a particular passage means to you. Or, perhaps share a testimony or a devotional thought from a book or even a poem. Do not try to do this alone, but encourage others to participate. Make a special effort to involve as many people as possible.

There will be students who will want to lead by reading the Scriptures and praying, but those who do not wish to participate in this fashion should be made to feel perfectly at ease. They may want to share in the sessions by doing something else, such as making posters to announce the meetings. If students share in the work, they will feel that they are a part of the group.

Sometimes the person in charge of devotions for a given day will be absent. In that event, be prepared to conduct devotions yourself. Or, perhaps, you have selected someone to lead the devotions for a week at a time. If you have not delegated the leadership to someone else, but would like to do so, bring a calendar to pass around so that those who are willing may choose the days most suitable for them to lead the group. This makes participation voluntary and saves asking people.

In order to avoid doing the same old thing, vary the devotional period occasionally. For example, lead a Jesus cheer one day or a suitable group chorus. Invite students to play musical instruments, such as guitars, as the group or individuals sing.

Or, play religious records.

It would be a good idea to host an outside speaker occasionally, too. This could be a minister, an evangelist, or another interesting person in the community—perhaps a schoolteacher would be available.

There may be enthusiastic Christians, also, who wish to go beyond the regular devotional period. These excited Christians should set aside one or two days a week for telling others about Christ. They could also plan a time to instruct others on how to witness. Before-school devotions and witnessing on campus will make a tremendous impact for

Christ on individuals in your school.

Another idea which has been used successfully is to provide a box where students may drop their small change. The money collected in this way can be used in different ways: for giving to charity, for buying and distributing Jesus buttons, for having a party to which non-Christians are invited, for buying tracts for distribution, or for supporting a coffeehouse. Before taking a collection, however, bring up the subject for discussion. Let the group decide whether or not to receive a collection and how to use the proceeds.

Another idea is to ask the group to attend a citywide revival, crusade, rally, or similar event.

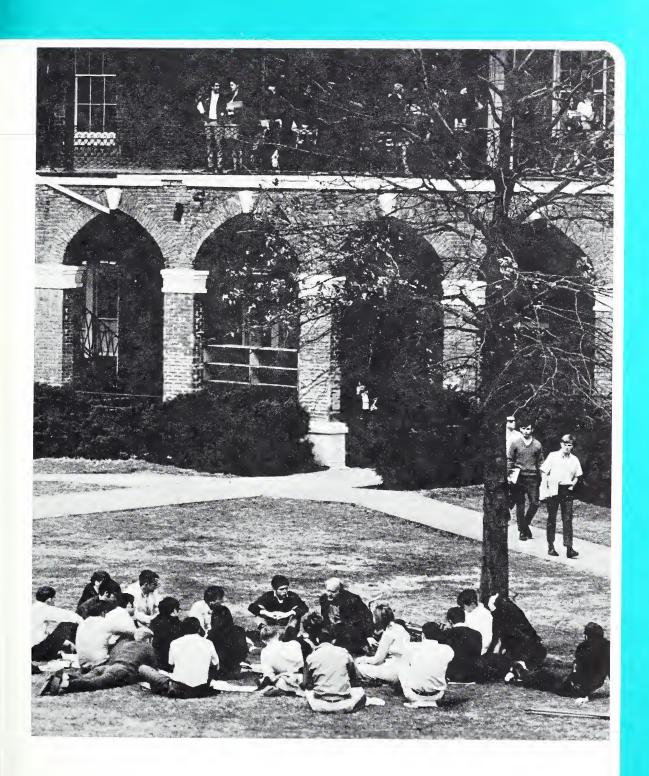
Further, students might enjoy regular get-togethers. Perhaps one night every week or every other week the group could meet for an hour or so in a member's home.

Singing with guitar accompaniment is very popular with teenagers, and some students could share their testimony on such occasions. But, above all, the evening should include some time for prayer, Bible study, and an invitation for non-Christians to accept Christ. (And don't forget the refreshments!) Also, be sure to let the entire student body know about the meeting.

Although hosting regular get-togethers, attending city-wide crusades, and receiving a collection are not necessary, they do help to expand the group, to make before-school devotions more interesting, and to inspire the participants to do more for God. Of course, the main thing is diligence in the devotions themselves.

If you, as a leader, are graduating, insist that a firm, faithful Christian be chosen to keep the devotions going the following year. Be sure the devotions continue—year after year!

So, begin your before-school devotions now. And remember Matthew 28:20—"And, lo, I am with you alway." Let the Lord guide you as you begin this wonderful new endeavor. 🔀





The Accident

BY ALAN CLIBURN

lowly awareness began to touch Jay's mind. Light, darkness, and lightawareness touched

his eyes. He felt a stab of pain; heard a groan; smelled a strong, sharp, antiseptic odor; listened to the low, murmuring voices. He struggled for understanding.

"Jay, can you hear me?" a clear, loud voice asked.

He swallowed; his throat was dry. "Jay," the voice repeated.

His eyes opened and stayed open. Dr. Wexler's face was above him; then, his father's.

"How do you feel, Son?" It was his father's voice.

"I—I'm okay, I guess. Where's Mom?" Jay questioned.

The small woman stepped forward. "I'm right here, Jay. The doctor says you'll be fine."

Jay looked down at his body wrapped in bandages. One leg was elevated and in a cast. He shifted slightly and felt the stab of pain again.

"You folks had better go now," he heard Dr. Wexler say. "Now that he's conscious, we have more tests to run. You can come back tonight."

Jay managed a slight smile as they left, but it was all on the outside. What am I doing in a hospital? I have devotions tonight at junior camp—and recreation.

He closed his eyes. Let's see, he thought. This morning, I got up early to beat rush hour traffic... to be at camp before the buses got there... to have everything ready when the kids came. What happened? Oh, yes. It was the plastic bag making that awful racket in the wind—the bag around the bedding.

It all came back to him now. He was approaching the freeway on-ramp when the bag came loose. He reached out with one hand to tuck it back in, and that was all he remembered. He must have glanced around—which couldn't have been for more than a second. Obviously, he had hit something.

"Did anybody else get hurt?" he

asked the doctor.

"No, but you tied up traffic on that freeway for a while!" Dr. Wexler replied. "And that little car of yours is a lot smaller now, too!"

Jay lay quietly as the doctor checked him over. What rotten timing! Missing junior high camp was bad enough, but school-time was coming up, too!

"How long will I be laid up?"

He wanted to know.

"It's hard to say," Dr. Wexler said. "It depends on a number of things; but if you were planning any sports this fall, forget it."

Jay frowned. "You mean it's that

bad?"

"Well, it could've been a lot worse if you hadn't been wearing the seat belt," the doctor told him. "But if there are no internal injuries and if all the bones knit properly, I figure you'll be able to start school on time this fall—"

"Well, that's something," Jay

interrupted.

"—wearing a brace, and probably on crutches," Dr. Wexler continued. "Just thank the good Lord you are in such good shape. I'll be back a little later."

The door closed and Jay tried to relax. "Just thank the good Lord," Dr. Wexler had said. Jay shook his head. That was easy for him to say. He hadn't had his plans for both summer and fall loused up all at the same time!

Jay swallowed. Still, I am a Christian, he thought. I should

thank God for sparing my life. He tried to pray, but the words wouldn't come. Why did God let me have a wreck on the way to camp where I was going to witness for Him? Jay asked himself. He could think of no answer or no reason.

He was still feeling bitter and confused a half hour later when the door opened and Don Elliott walked in. "Howdy," the youth director greeted.

"Don, what are you doing here?" Jay wanted to know. "You're sup-

posed to be at camp."

Don grinned. "For that matter, so are you!"

Jay did not think it was very funny, but he laughed anyway.

"They tell me there's a good chance that I'll live," Jay interrupted grinning. "What are you in for?"

"I'm on my way up there right now," Don went on. "But I had to come by and see how you're doing. The kids were concerned, too. Your accident was on the news this morning. We're all disappointed that you won't be with us, Jay."

"So am I," Jay said. "Believe me. I still don't know why it happened."

"Well, according to the report, you slammed into a light pole at

the on-ramp," Don replied.

"No, I don't mean that," Jay told him. "I just don't understand why God let it happen. I mean, I was sure it was God's will for me to help at camp."

Don thought for a minute. "Well, it's just an accepted truism that when two solid masses hit, something's got to give. In this case

it was the car and you."

"I know that," Jay said, "but—"
"Why didn't God just lift that
pole out of the way?" Don asked.
"Or, at least make you a little more
alert so you would have missed
it? Just because you're a Christian
doesn't mean that you have guaranteed immunity from problems,
man. Look at all the problems and
trials Jesus had, and He was God's
Son."

"Yeah, but that was all part of a plan," Jay argued.

Don looked at him. "And you

think this isn't?"

Jay frowned. "You mean I was supposed to be in an accident to-

supposed to be in an accident to-day? Don, that doesn't make any sense! What good can I do here, flat on my back? I was counting on talking to those junior-high kids about Christ, and this fall I was going to witness to a lot of the guys at school—just like last year. Let's face it. I just blew everything by my stupid mistake. I can't see how God could possibly have meant for this to have happened."

"What about the Apostle Paul?" Don said. "Was it a mistake when he was beaten and thrown into jail? It couldn't have seemed very rewarding to someone who was giving everything he had in order to

preach the gospel."

THE ACCIDENT

Continued

"Yeah, but that turned out all right," Jay replied. "I mean, he led people to Christ in those jails. And he wrote all those letters which we still have today. But—"

"You don't think God can use you here?" Don asked. "Do you remember that verse about all things working together for good to them who love God?"

Jay didn't answer. He never had really understood that verse.

"Well, I have to run," Don announced. "Can't have junior-high camp without the camp pastor there!" He lifted a small cassette tape recorder onto the table next to Jay's bed. "Would you like to record your testimony? I could play it at camp tonight."

"No, I'd better not," Jay answered, looking away. "The way I feel right now, it would be just a lot of words."

"I'll leave it here," Don told him. "Tom Rice had to work today and won't be coming up to camp until tomorrow. He'll drop by to see you in the morning."

"Okay," Jay said. "And thanks for coming over, Don. Wish I could be there tonight. I had everything worked out for devotions, just about—" His voiced trailed away.

"Take it easy," Don replied. "And pray for us, huh?"

Jay swallowed. "Yeah, I will."

After Don left, the nurse came in and gave Jay a shot. He was

thinking about what Don had said—and was finding it a little hard to accept—when the shot took effect and he went to sleep.

He woke up to find the other bed in the room occupied by a boy his age or a little younger. "Hi." He yawned. "I'm Jay Scribner."

"Hello," the boy answered. "My name is Greg—Greg Stewart." He frowned. "Are you all right? I mean, you're—"

"They tell me there's a good chance that I'll live," Jay interrupted grinning. "What are you in for?"

Greg turned pale. "I'm having my tonsils out in the morning."

"Man, that's a snap," Jay told him. "Or, I guess a 'snip' would be more accurate!"

Greg looked at him. "Have you had yours out?"

"Sure," Jay said. "Nothing to it. What's wrong?"

"I've never been in a hospital before," Greg explained, "and this operation has me a little shook up. I mean, even a great surgeon can make a mistake. I once read that—"

"Forget it." Jay shrugged. "Have a little faith in your doctor, if nothing else. You do have faith, don't you?"

Greg shrugged. "I don't know. I never thought much about it. Do you have faith?"

Suddenly, everything seemed to

fall into place in Jay's mind. Here was a guy asking him about his faith! What a fantastic opportunity to witness! And Greg would only be there for a couple of days. Other guys would take his place. It was like having a captive audience—like Paul in prison.

"Believe me," Jay began, "when you like sports and you get a broken leg and multiple injuries a month before the start of practice, you'd better have faith!"

"Faith in what?" Greg wanted to know.

"Have a little faith in your doctor, if nothing else. You do have faith, don't you?"

As Jay reached for the New Testament on the table next to his bed, he brushed the cassette tape recorder Don had left there. Regardless of the outcome of his witnessing to Greg, he'd have a testimony to put on tape—a testimony about faith that all things did work together for good and about how God could use a Christian anywhere

"You know, Greg," he said, turning to his roommate, "faith means believing that God knows what's happening, even if you aren't sure." 🔀



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Check the Song Before You Go Along!

BY JESSE M. BOYD

State Youth and Christian Education Director, Idaho-Utah

nd he said unto them, Take heed what ye hear" (Mark 4:24).

"I listen to all kinds of musie, and it doesn't bother me. Don't be old-fashioned! You need to eatch up with the times. Hey, man, my music is out of sight!" These expressions which are heard daily describe the musie that many young people listen to. The ery of some youth today is, "What's wrong with listening to today's musie?"

Not all of the music heard on the radio or sold in the stores is wrong for Christian young people to hear. One must be very eareful, however, not to become addieted to the sound of the "roek" and even to some of the so-ealled "pop" musie. The reason is that it is a proven faet that music has a tremendous influence upon the listener.

Dr. Sehoen in *The Psychology* of *Music* makes this statement: "Music is the most powerful stimulus known among the perceptive processes." The word *stimulus* has to do with anything that arouses the mind or spirit. Dr. Howard Hanson states that "music can be

soothing or invigorating, ennobling or vulgarizing, philosophieal or orgiastic. It has power of evil as well as good." C. Monteverdi said, "The end of all good music is to affect the soul." These statements emphasize the eare one must take in selecting his music.

Many of the tunes of our times are packed with profanity and sexual immorality, draw attention to drugs, or recommend the overthrow of our government. Songs such as "Let's Spend the Night Together" or "C'mon, Baby, Light My Fire" plainly speak of sexual immorality. "Mother's Little Helper" and "Straight Shooter" endeavor to glorify drugs. Lyries from the song "Monster" suggests that America is a monster.

Psychologists state that the loud, pounding, monotonous rhythmic sound heard from the disc and on the stage causes many things to happen to the mind. They say that loss of control of one's mind can be experienced. Is it any wonder that low morals, drug problems, and rebellion plague our society?

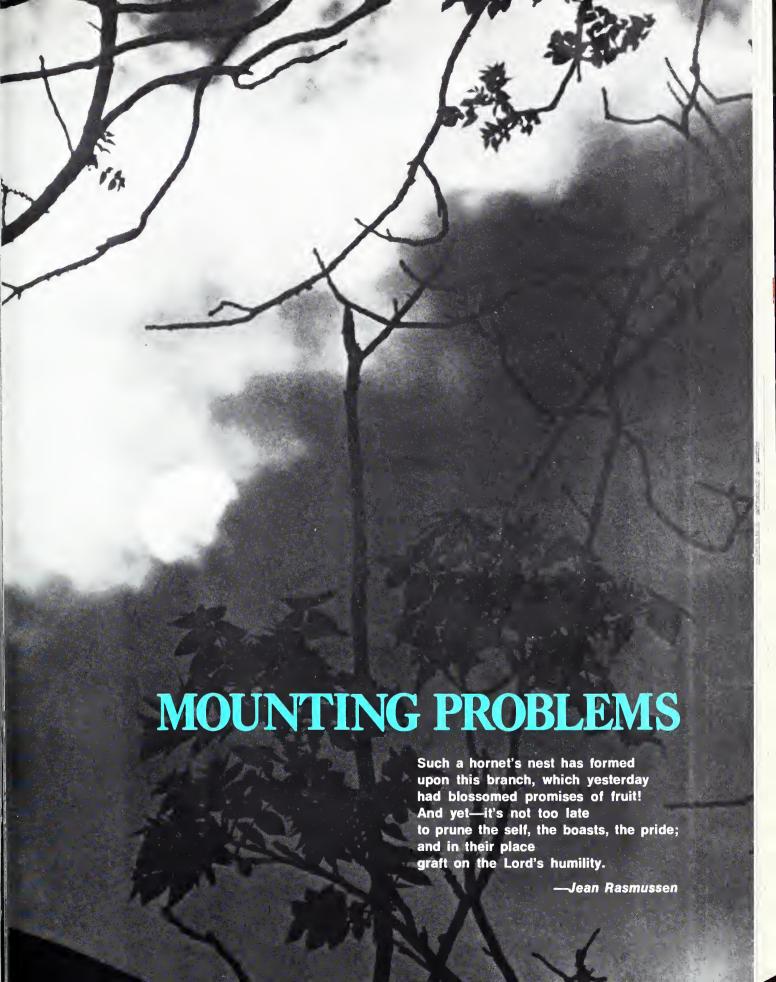
Jesus said, "Take heed what ye hear." The serpent spoke to Eve; she listened. The results were fa-

tal. Judas Iscariot listened to the devil and betrayed our Lord. It is the plan of Satan to get you to listen to him. If he can get you to listen by providing you with musie which contains his message, then he will do just that.

The Apostle Paul ehallenged youth to be an example of the believers, in word, in eonversation, in eharity, in spirit, in faith, in purity. Jesus said to His followers, "Ye are the light of the world" (Matthew 5:14). They were to give light, to illuminate the minds of men, to enlighten the world of God's love to all mankind. God is eounting on you, my young friend. You must be an example of what Christ ean do in the life of a young person.

Longfellow once wrote: "In this world a man must either be an anvil or a hammer. He is one who helps to mold the lives of others or he is molded by the persons around him." Christian youth must never allow the influence of this world to mold their lives. You ean't afford to listen to the profane, vulgar, drug-soaked, rebellion-filled songs on the market today.

Stand up and sound your song for righteousness. There are hundreds, yes thousands, of young persons just like you who refuse to sway to the swing of Satan, to rock their soul to ruin, or to dance to the drumbeats of the devil. The Lord loves you and wants the very best for you. It matters to Him what you hear! Let this be your motto: "Check the song before you go along!"



CREATIVE EXPRESSION CONTEST

THREE CATEGORIES:

- 1. Slogans
- 2. Posters
- 3. Statements

TWO AGE DIVISIONS:

11 through 14

15 through 19

SIX PRIZES:

First prize: S25 (each division)
Second prize: S15 (each division)
Third prize: S5 (each division)

DATE OF CONTEST:

September 1 - December 1, 1974

PURPOSE:

Young people are a dynamic part of the Family Training Hour program. The purpose of the Family Training Hour Creative Expression Contest is to guide youth in understanding their part in the ministry of the Family Training Hour, to stimulate them to accept personal responsibility in the activities, and to show them the rewards of becoming joyfully involved in promoting it. The three categories—slogans, posters, and statements—will permit full-scale investigation of and expression about the Family Training Hour, a new and exciting ministry in the Church of God.

INSTRUCTIONS:

You may enter all three categories of this contest, but you must follow the specific instructions as outlined for each category you enter.

Slogans: All entries must be typewritten (double-spaced). You may enter as many slogans as you wish, but each slogan must be entered separately and accompanied by an entry form. Each slogan must be the *original* work of the entrant. In addition, each slogan must be one complete statement or phrase and express one thought. For example:

"The Family Training Hour helps to develop

a family team spirit."

"The Family Training Hour is learning in action."

"The family at study and worship."

Posters: Your entry must measure 8½ by 11 inches. Any color or combination of colors is allowed. Entries may be done in pen, pencil, acrylic, oil, watercolor, felt-tipped pen, tempera, cut colored

paper, and paper cutouts. It may be a picture, design, word theme, or combination. Your poster must depict the Family Training Hour in artistic form. An entry form must accompany your entry. Only two entries per person are allowed in this category. Each entry will be judged as a whole—on the message the entire poster conveys, on its artistic merit, and on the impact of the word theme used (if any).

Statements: "I believe in the Family Training Hour because. . ." This statement must be completed in twenty-five words or less. All entries must be typewritten (double-spaced). You may submit as many entries as you wish, but each entry must be entered separately and be accompanied by an entry form. Each statement must be the *original* work of the entrant.

The contest is sponsored jointly by the General Youth and Christian Education Department and the *Lighted Pathway*, and winners will be announced in the *Lighted Pathway*. Entries will be judged on originality, impact, clarity, descriptiveness, and neatness.

OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM

Yes, I want to be a part of the Youth and the Family Training Hour Creative Expression Contest. Please enter my original work in the division and category I have checked below. I give the Church of God General Department of Youth and Christian Education and the *Lighted Pathway* all rights to my entry, and all pieces shall become the property of the aforementioned parties.

Signed (your name)						
Division: 11-14						
□ 15-19						
Category: Slogan						
☐ Poster ☐ Statement						
Name						
Address						
City State Zip						
Birth date (month, day, year)						
Mail to: ETH Creative Expression Contest						

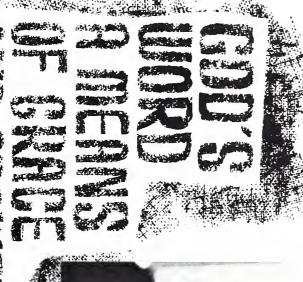
Mail to: FTH Creative Expression Contest Youth and Christian Education Department Keith at 25th, N.W. Cleveland, Tennessee 37311

campus evangelism

What possible relevance can a book authored more than two thousand years ago have for today? What message can a tome from a rustic, Middle Eastern culture offer to a twentieth-century, Western, technocratic society? How can shepherds, tree trimmers, and itinerant carpenters speak meaningfully to a sophisticated, gadget-oriented age?

The Bible is a timeless book. Its precepts and principles defy temporal categorization. In His infinite wisdom God revealed eternal Truth to man and superintended the process of its recording. He continually applies the benefits of His grace to all who acknowledge His sovereign will.

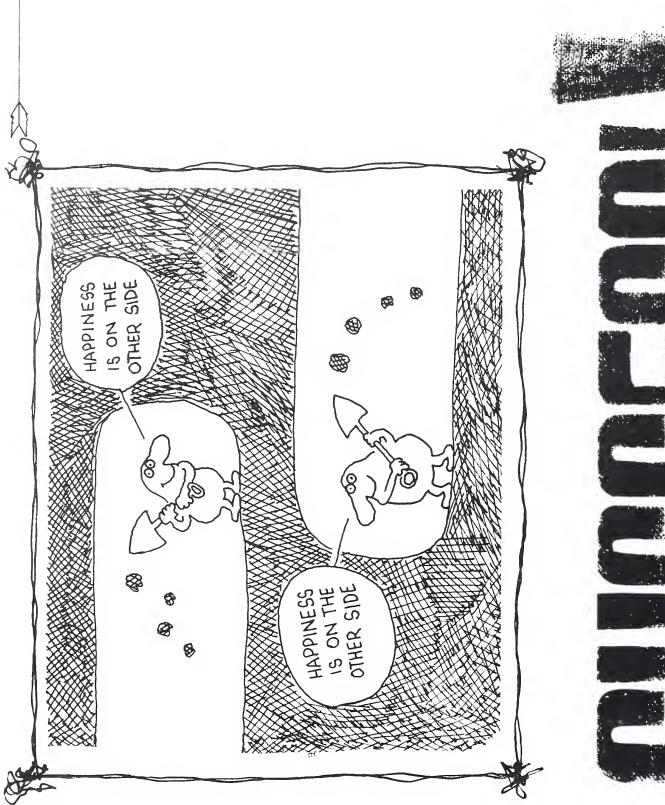
Philosophy is immediately offended by the very concept of revelation. Philosophy represents man's intellectual pursuit toward understanding







PULL OI



So you want to succeed! So do!! But what is success? Certainly it is not just making the "top" scores on an examination or "landing" the ideal job at graduation. Success is bigger than both of these and is tied up more in what we become, in the sense of personal being, than it is in what we achieve in a structured society.

Success for the student is to become aware of himself or herself as a person: a person of worth and of potential. It is to become aware of values which have their bases in other than the material and which will provide a foundation for decision making.

Success is developing a faith which will anchor your life when reason does not supply the answers. The major problems of life are solved by acting upon an established faith. The ability to love and be loved, to believe and be believed, to hope out of distress and to sing out of darkness—these are faith-rooted experiences and successful is that berson who does not wait until the hour of need to try to discover true meanings.

To be successful is to discover that all desired goals are not obtainable immediately. Some things are worth waiting for, working for, and praying for. Some things come in no other way. To demand all of life's treasures for today is

The successful student does student is one who learns how not miss the thrill of the learnwants to learn—to experience, and with this experience to be ing adventure. To look beyond earning is a key to becoming. graduation, for the successful who hopes to become someearn is to grow. The person This growth does not stop at she is now is a person who thing other than what he or what some see as drudgery To grow is to learn and to and become excited about aware of personal growth. to be a student for life.

changeable nature. This awarein the midst of constant change, but also growing and succeed-Jesus remains the changeless To be prepared for change change is constant in this life ness prevents disappointment A life trusted to His care is a world about us changes. But One to whom nothing is new. life which is not only secure, -and only God has an unand frustration. We change, our friends change, and the is to be successful. Only ing.

Success is not static. The person who learns not to lean on yesterday's accomplishments is wise. Today demands that we meet it with our whole being and meet its challenge with all that we are. Only in Christ Jesus is this possible because only in Him do we realize the budding of our full potential. O

Church of God - Youth and Christian Education Department

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Staff
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Citadel Press

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"Truthway" is a campus evangelism promotion prepared twice a year for the Lighted Pathway by the General Department of Youth and Christian Education — compiled by Floyd D. Carey: art work by Lonzo T. Kirkland.

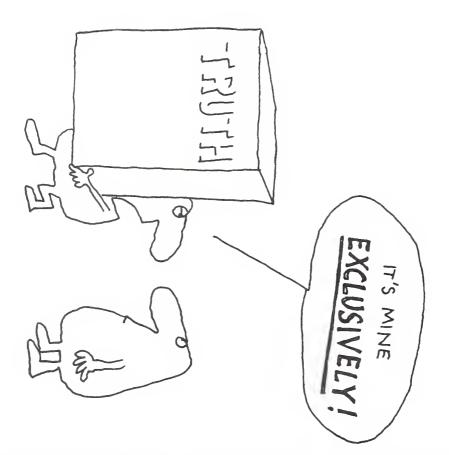
the Lighted Pathway by Education—compiled by

finite mind has been blinded by sin, that there is a "ceiling" beyond which it cannot ascend, and that divine aid must necessarily be solicited in putting together a meaningful pattern to the puzzle of reality.

Hevelation is derived from the Greek word apokalupsis, which means "to have the veil taken away from." In His gracious action of enriching us

the marvelous dimensions
of His will.
God's Word answers the
basic questions of life. Every

basic questions of life. Every inquiring mind makes, at one time or another, substantive probings such as, Where did I come from? Why am I here? Where am I going? Responses to these questions constitute what may be called a world view, and numerous world



is unsatisfying both intellectually and practically. Materialism puts dependence in "things"; but even the casual observer of reality is impressed with the transitoriness and temporal decay of "things." Empiricism enlists the senses in testimony to Truth; but the senses have a record of deceiving us at times.

Christian theism is the only viable option. Nothing short of belief in a personal God, whose self-revelation is Holy Scripture, can satisfy the inherent investigative dimension of human nature. Only the Word reliably affirms the origin, purpose, and ultimate disposition of man: God Himself has made us for His glory.

God's Word provides a means of spiritual growth. That one will die if he does not eat is an incontrovertible law of the physical realm. So too, most certainly, will one die spiritually if he does not avail himself of nourishment from the Word of God. God has provided in Scripture that basic sustenance essential to the further benefits of grace.

At least three principles are imperative to reception of the Word as a means of grace and growth: there must be an appreciative acknowledgment of the Word; there must be an honest investigation of the Word; and there must be a personal application of the Word. Deference in these regards alone issues in the fruitful Christian life.

Hear the psalmist: "Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy

the basic questions
of life.

word.... Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.... Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path" (Psalm 119:9, 11, 105).

Jesus promised that "If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you" (John 15:7). Surely the intention here is to concede spiritual as well as other benefits.

God's Word relates to life situations. Isn't it interesting that the Bible has more to say about how to get through this life than about what the next life will be like? The dynamics of interpersonal relationships is an urgent concern of the Word.

What is the paramount need in your life? salvation? the deeper spiritual experience? more meaningful stewardship involvement? the divine will in service? appropriate relationship to peers? awareness of ministry in secular calling?

In each of these concerns the Word is a means of grace and growth. To that end Paul has prayed that God increase the spirit of wisdom and revelation in our knowledge of Christ Jesus, that the eyes of our understanding be enlightened, and that His mighty power continue to work in us who believe (Ephesians 1:17-20). *



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life-Changing learning

. . . the Mission of the Family Training Hour



BY FLOYD D. CAREY

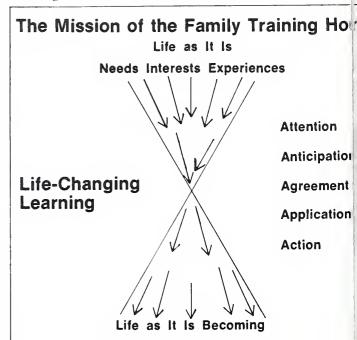
How involved are you in the local Family Training Hour program?

It is to your advantage to get involved—totally involved—because the Family Training Hour program is designed to provide you with life-changing learning. Life doesn't have to be as it is. When your needs, interests, and experiences are provided for and are properly channeled, life can be different—beautifully different!

The programs offered by the Family Training Hour will guide you in understanding and in developing the Christ-life—the different life. This different life will capture your attention. You will anticipate it, you will agree with its principles, and you will apply them. This process will result in action that will make life a daily experience of soul joy. And, this soul joy will prepare the way for you to express yourself in a rewarding manner in every area of life. (Review the diagram included with this article.)

In addition to the agc-level training materials already provided by the Publishing House, a new selectives program has been launched to furnish additional support for the life-changing learning ministry of the Family Training Hour. To date, five books have been released, and five more are planned for next year. Ask your pastor or youth sponsor about these books (a brief resume of each one is given below), and plan to use them in your training sessions.

1. What a Life! The Jesus Way—Lamar Vest, \$1.75. This book speaks to youth where they are. The real sticky issues of life are met head-on and positive Bible-based answers are given. Written in a clear and captivating style, What a Life! deals with the total Christian life and outlines the pattern for successful and productive Christian living.





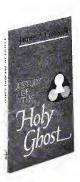
2. What About Tomorrow?— Clyne W. Buxton, \$1.75. The Bible gives the answers to questions about what is going to happen tomorrow—about future events. Christ promised that He would return—and He will. That will be a glorious time for believers, but it will be a time of condemnation for unbelievers. What About Tomorrow? tells of the events surrounding the return of Christ and the end of time.



4. Of Course You Can!—Hoyt E. Stone, \$1.75. Yes, youth can. Youth can succeed in life. Youth can make a mark for themselves, for their country, and for their heavenly Father. The careers discussed in this book relate to professions, technical work, government, business, and skilled and unskilled labor. Two chapters present the challenge of a church-oriented career. Basic guidelines are also given to help you in securing your first job.



3. I Didn't Know That! My Church Loves Me-Douglas LeRoy, \$1.75. The church does love her youth. The programs of the church are aimed at directing youth in finding God's plan for their lives and following it. This book sets forth the dogma (teaching) of the church in a form which is uncluttered and easy to read. Such subjects as "sin," "s alvation," "dress," "worldly amusements;" and "stewardship" are discussed in a straightforward style.



5. A Study of the Holy Ghost— James A. Cross, \$1.75. The Church of God has always been interested in the work of the Holy Ghost. Today, however, there is a new and fresh interest both in the church and in the world. This book leads youth step by step in understanding the personality, the position, and the power of the Holy Ghost. It is a book that every youth group in the Church of God should study.



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That Wonderful World of Worship



NATIONAL YOUTH EMPHASIS
OCTOBER 11,12,13

BY R. EDWIN KING, State Youth and Christian Education Director, Texas

aymond does not like church. He goes only because his parents make him. They've tried to convince him that church is really important and that God is happy when Christians worship Him, but Raymond does not buy it. He wonders what's so great about it.

It doesn't make sense, he thinks. Who can get excited about singing old hymns, wading through those age-old, mechanically-expressed testimonies, and listening to the preacher ramble on and on about something he doesn't understand?

When he was a little kid his mom and dad let him read or color in church. Now, he has to sit there and keep quiet. He thinks about things he would rather be doing—playing baseball, fishing at the lake, or watching television. That makes the time go faster. None of his friends get much out of church, either. Some of them write notes and giggle. His folks think that's wrong and keep a close watch on him to make sure he doesn't join in. He'll be glad when he doesn't have to go to church.

While many in the adult world might feel that Raymond's situation is extreme, a person closely associated with youth could imagine a staggering number of young people saying, "Right on, man!" Before youth can truly worship God, they must understand what worship is; they must be taught the importance of it.

UNDERSTANDING WORSHIP

Worship is "worthship," denoting the worthiness of an individual to receive honor in accordance with that worth. We are only worthy through Christ. He brings us back to God through redemption and opens the door of darkness that allows the heavenly light to shine through. God honors us only as we honor Christ-His supreme sacrifice. Worship is adoration of God. Icsus said, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind" (Matthew 22:37).

Youth have the privilege of worshiping publicly as well as privately.

Worship is pure adoration—the lifting up of the redeemed spirit toward God in contemplation of His holy perfection. Worship is complete obedience and faith in God, regardless of the conditions or circumstances. Abraham in Gen-

esis 22:5 said, "I and the lad will go yonder and worship, and come again to you."

As the scripture indicates, "God is Spirit" (not a spirit), and we must have His Spirit's help to worship instead of being legalistically encumbered with "do's" and "don'ts."

THE IMPORTANCE OF WORSHIP

If you have negative feelings about church or worship services, perhaps it is because you don't understand the real meaning and importance of worship. It is difficult to enjoy something you do not see any importance in.

Would you believe there are young people who can't stand baseball? That's right. They do not understand terms like "foul ball," "baseline," "balks," "bases on ball." They know neither the terms of the game, nor do they understand how to play it.

Do you think it would be possible for young people not to desire to worship because they cannot see the importance of it? Worshiping God can become more interesting and meaningful once you see its importance and become involved.

Have you ever wondered just how important it is to worship God? Worship is important in that it meets the human need for cleansing. It broadens our mind, stirs our emotions, and develops

our character. Worship offers us a regular opportunity for review and renewing of our spiritual dynamics. Worship enables one to see life in God's perspective.

HOW TO WORSHIP

How wonderful and marvelous it is to realize that God does not isolate or inhibit His people in worship. Just because a person responds when he is asked to raise his hand and say "Hallelujah" or is instructed, congregationally, to say "amen" is no gauge or barometer to measure his depth of worship.

Worship is a spiritual experience; therefore, it can occur anywhere. Youth have the privilege of worshiping publicly as well as privately. However, before one can worship publicly, he must have worshiped privately. Before one can worship privately, he must have had a personal encounter with

Christ—a born-again experience. Once this transition has taken place, worship becomes meaningful.

Three types of public worship are mentioned in the New Testament: temple worship, synagogue worship, and worship in the Christian church. Worship is expressed privately through prayer, praise, and Scripture reading. Anything that stimulates and expresses the worshipful spirit is a legitimate aid in worship, but is never a substitute for it and is harmful if it displaces worship.

When one worships, he is attempting to pay his unpayable debt of love. This may be done by an expression of appreciation, confession, petition, aspiration, or dedication. Worship is true worship in the Christian doctrinal context—in whatever form or pattern—only if it is God-centered, Spirit-filled, and Christ-oriented.

Whom Do You Represent?

lmost daily the newspapers are saturated with advertisements for hip huggers, halters, see-through blouses, and unisex clothes. As Christian teens shop and look for clothes, where do they fit in? Can they wear all of the fashions of the day and still not compromise their Christian testimony?

God expects every teen to be neat and to represent Him well. After all, you are judged by the way you look. There is no substitute for good personal appearance. So, many ask, How do I dress fashionably today with proper Christian dress?

Let's see what the Bible has to say about this subject. "Your beauty should not be dependent on an elaborate coiffure, or on the wearing of jewelry or fine clothes, but on the inner personality—the unfading loveliness of a calm and gentle spirit, a thing very precious in the eyes of God" (1 Peter 3: 3, 4, Phillips). In his booklet Insight, Floyd D. Carey outlined this passage of Scripture somewhat as follows:

Whose adorning—

the things we do to attract attention;

the things we do to gain favor;

the things we do to achieve a feeling of importance.

Let it not be that outward adorning of—

plaiting the hair; wearing of gold; putting on of apparel.

Let it be-

the hidden man of the heart;

BY ANDREA & BILL REID

State Youth and Christian Education Director, Maryland-Delaware



that which is not corrupti-

the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit.

. . . Beautify your soul rather than your body—the hidden man.

The Bible suggests that the Christian teen is not to engage in a beauty contest. Christian teens arc to have high standards. Their values are not determined by movie stars, fashion designers, or friends. The Bible says, "I appeal to you, therefore, brethren, and beg of you in view of [all] the mercies of God, to make a decisive dedication of your bodies—presenting all your members and faculties—as a living sacrifice, holy (devoted, eonscerated) and well pleasing to God, which is your reasonable (rational, intelligent) service and spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world—this age, fashioned after and adapted to its external, superficial customs. But be transformed (changed) by the [entire] renewal of your mind—by its new ideals and its new attitude—so that you may prove [for yourselves] what is the good and acceptable and perfect will of God, even the thing which is good and acceptable and perfect [in His sight for you]" (Romans 12:1, 2; Amplified).

As Christian teens, who are you trying to please with your dress? You can wear the latest fashions, be accepted by all your peers, and still be found unacceptable to God.

The real test is not whether it is fashionable or popular, but whether it is acceptable in God's sight. God's requirements are to present yourselves as a living sacrifice. Present your body, your clothes, your thoughts, everything you are.

In his book *Involved*, Floyd D. Carey lists the following under his Christian Teenager's Code of Conduct, "I will dress tastefully and modestly, keeping in mind that I must be presentable and impressive and above all, holy. My dress will reflect my inward desires, which are eonsecrated living and rewarding service."

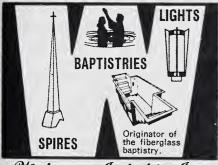
The drcss issue is tough to handle within yourself. When you look at God's Word, however, He doesn't say that you can wear this and you ean wear that. What He does say is, "Dedicate yourself to me and let the outward person reflect the presence of God dwelling on the inside."





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SATAN "BUGGING" YOU?



C. S. Lovett

Mind wanders in prayer? Can't remember Scripture verses? Evil scenes in your imagination? The devil has access to your thoughts. Jesus said so (Matt. 13:19). He can take away godly ideas and plant worldly notions of his own (Acts 5:3).

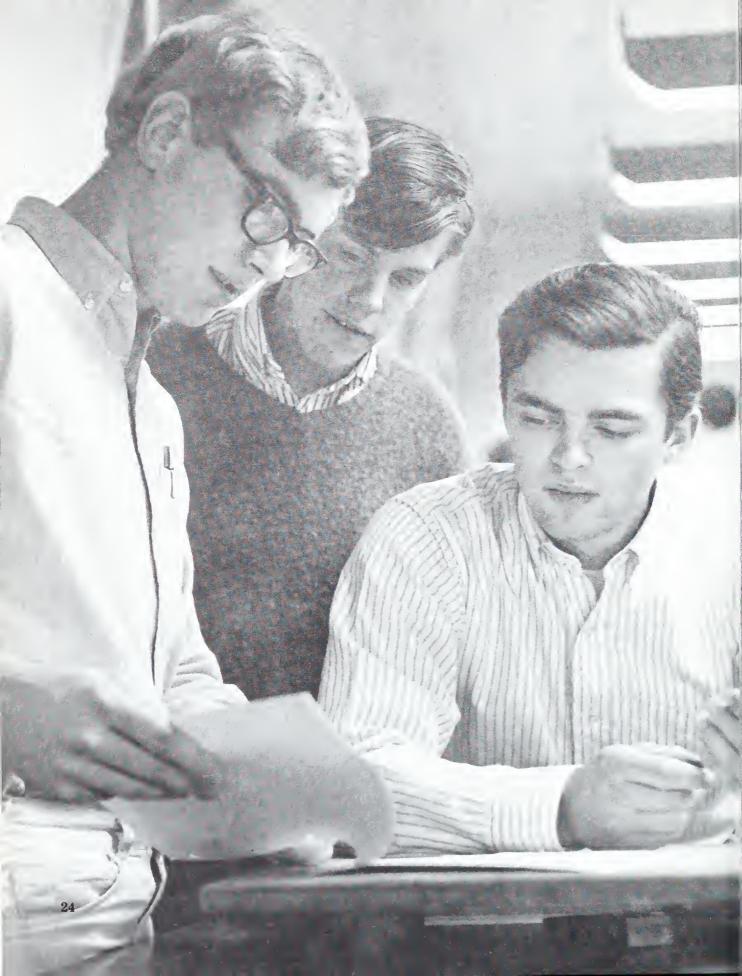
Be honest, are you anywhere near what you long to be for Christ? Do you forget Jesus hours at a time? Why? Because you want to? No, a mighty adversary works to keep us all from living for Christ. He succeeds until we learn how to deal with him.

Catch him in the act one time and you'll be convinced. But you can't do that until you know HOW. My book, DEALING WITH THE DEVIL, shows how Satan works and how to detect his presence. Based on Jesus' resistance of Satan in the wilderness, it offers a 4 step plan for ridding yourself of his ugly presence.

DEALING WITH THE DEVIL shows how to catch Satan in the act and make him flee per James 4:7. Great changes can occur in you when he leaves. This ½ price offer is our way of introducing you to an arsenal of more than 35 proven tools for those who mean business for Christ!



PERSONAL CHRISTIANITY Box 549, Baldwin Park, Calif. 91706 I enclose \$2.98. Please send me your special introductory offer of DEALING WITH THE DEVIL by C. S. Lovett which regularly sells for \$5.95. (This offer good only with coupon. Limit 1 per family, of course.)
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Making the Grade

BY HORACE WARD, Ph.D. West Coast Bible College

ou can make better grades! Every year thousands of students flunk out of college unneccssarily, and many others learn far less than they should. It shouldn't happen to you, because there is something you can do about it. This article may give you some keys that will make a difference.

Many years ago people learned to swim by being thrown into the water against their will so that in panic they would make frantic motions to keep themselves afloat. Some learned to dog-paddle and survive, while others learned nothing but fear of water. Today we know that a beginner should be given sound, basic instruction and that a good athlete can be even better if he is properly coached. Even the professionals take lessons in order to improve their skills.

In college we still throw many students into the deep, dark waters of academe to sink or swim. Those who survive usually stay afloat by dog-paddling when they should be learning the faster, more efficient strokes. If training is given in the skills of studying, it is often aimed, at those who are the worst casualties of the system, so that promising students never achieve their full potential. Research in effective study skills has shown a better way.

The secret to your success may not be in studying longer and harder, but in studying better. Even if you are a good student, you can improve your study skills—you can make better grades.

Research has shown that training in study skills improves grades, continues to be effective throughout the college years, and leads to a higher frequency of graduation instead of attrition. The following suggestions can make a difference in your studies.

Watch Your Time

One of your biggest problems for the rest of your life will be finding enough time to do the things you need to do. Learning to manage your time efficiently in college will make you a better and a happier student, and it will help you to be more effective throughout your future.

1. Establish priorities. Once you have spent time, you can never get it back. Time is your most precious and most perishable possession. You must decide for yourself how to spend it. Ask yourself often, Is this the way I really want to spend this portion of my time?

2. Be thrifty with cheap time. Some hours of the day are in higher demand than others. You have a greater range of enjoyable options available during these prime times. During other times your friends are in class and nothing important is demanding your time. This is "cheap" time since there is little demand for it. It is, however, valuable time for study, since it will release your prime time for other activities.

This writer was married during his college years and preferred spending his evenings with his wife instead of devoting them to study. He found that there were several free hours scattered among his classes and that some study could be done during the ten-minute breaks between classes. Later, he heard his wife telling a friend, "My husband is really bright. He never has to crack a book, but he still gets good grades." She didn't know that he was making full use of his cheap time in order to have prime time available for activities which they could enjoy together.

Similar use of cheap time will make prime time available for recreation, extracurricular activities, hobbies, dating, and Christian service.

3. Be realistic. In your zeal, don't plan an austere schedulc which requires more study than you are willing to do or permits less play than you need. Plan a schedule that allows you to be yourself at your best, giving yourself enough time for all that is truly important.

Realistic study times will include 25 or 55 minutes of study in one subject, followed by a five-minute break to relax and relieve the strain. Following a successful study period, reward yourself with a cool drink, a short walk, a good stretch, or a candy bar. Then get back to work.

- 4. Execute. The best schedule will fail unless you stick to it. Don't deviate from it except for true emergencies and don't fool yourself with weak alibis. If an activity is not important enough to be on your schedule, you don't have time for it. Remember that your choice occasions for fun and recreation are already on your schedule.
- 5. Pace your work. Your schedule will allow regular learning to

MAKING THE GRADE

Continued

take place in segments distributed throughout the school term. This is the best way to learn, according to research. Cramming is dumb since you forget too much, and it puts you under too much pressure at a time when you should be relaxed and confident.

Learn More and Forget Less

The secret to remembering is learning. Most people don't remember because they never really learned. They shook hands with people they didn't really meet, or they read pages instead of content.

- 1. Tune out the static. Avoid all distractions that take your mind away from the content you are trying to learn. Read and study in a quiet place where you will not see or hear other people, and where favorite pictures, magazines, music, or television programs will not distract. Sit toward front center of the classroom—away from the aisles, doors, and windows, and away from the whispering in the back of the room. You will hear and concentrate much better.
- 2. Get the big picture. Poor students try to remember a jumble of facts, but good students search out the important points and organize the material meaningfully. Most lectures include only two or three main points plus a half dozen minor points. Lecturers normally identify these main points in topic sentences or summary statements. Listen for introductory phrases such as "In the first place. . . ," or "The three re-

sults. . .," or "The next important feature. . . ."

Getting the big picture is even easier in reading, since the important cues are identified by the publisher. First, *survey* the material to be read; look for topics and subtopics in boldface type or italics. This gives you an overview of the general content.

Second, ask yourself a few questions about information you would expect to learn from the material to be read. Some books have questions prepared for you at the beginning or end of each chapter. Research has proven that questioning helps to focus your attention on important points to be gained, thereby heightening learning and reducing the rate of forgetting.

Only our best is good enough for Him.

Now you are ready for the third step which is to read the material. Fourth, after reading (or listening) you should recite the information in your own words. A person who is good at remembering names will usually repeat the name when he is introduced. He will spell it to be sure he understands it correctly, and he will use it a few times in the ensuing con-

versation. Others had their mind on other things and never learned the name.

God Cares About Your Studies

God loves you and is concerned about everything that touches your life. He wants you to succeed in school, and He will bless your faithfulness in study. But more, He frowns on ignorance and makes faithful study your Christian obligation. In His kingdom a special opportunity for service awaits the individual who is willing to prepare himself.

Christ invited all humanity to "learn of me." His followers were called *disciples*, which means "students." They were commissioned by Him to "teach all nations."

Paul wrote, "Study to shew thyself approved unto God" (2 Timothy 2:15). His clear implication is that a man who doesn't study should be ashamed of himself and that he is an embarrassment to the cause of Christ. Hosea lamented, "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge" (Hosea 4:6).

Paul exhorted, "Whatsoever ye do . . . do all in the name of the Lord." As a freshman in high school, this writer became convinced that he should study for the glory of God and that his scholarship should be dedicated to Christ. Only our best is good enough for Him. The final grade is His to assign, and the report should be, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant—thou good and faithful scholar."

THE BELL IS RINGING!

Summer vacation cannot last forever; instead, you must return to the classroom—to mental development

and preparation for life.

The reasons for training are myriad. Someone has said, "Everyone should learn all he can and should can all he learns." A sage by the name of Addison stated: "I consider a human soul without education like marble in the quarry, which shows nonc of its inherent beauties till the skill of the polisher fetches out the colors, makes the surface shine, and discovers every ornamental cloud, spot, and vein that runs through the body of it."

The road may be winding at times and the going slow, but still this road must be traveled. To take a side road anywhere along the way is a wrong turn of the worst kind. There is never a shortcut for a full life.

Don't terminate your studies upon receiving a high-school diploma, but diligently strive to attain a college degree. Some high-school seniors feel that they just cannot afford to spend four more years of their lives in training. "Why, I would be twenty-one by the time I received a degree," is their reasoning. And this is true! However, the question is, How old will you be in four years from now, whether or not you go to college? Now, I didn't take modern math, but according to my ancient mode of calculating, you will still be twenty-one. And isn't it preferable to be twenty-one with a college diploma than without one?

Although you may not stand at the head of the class, you ought to be studious. Winston Churchill facetiously spoke of his school days when he wrote in Roving Commission: My Early Life: "By being so long in the lowest form I gained an immense advantage over the clever boys. . . . I got into my bones the essential structure of the ordinary British sentence—which is a noble thing. Naturally I am biased in favor of boys learning English; and then I would let the clever ones learn Latin as an honor, and Greek as a treat." Churchill did learn English well, and he left numerous books as a monument to his studiousness.

It is difficult to imagine a good Christian being a poor student. Like oil and water, these two concepts do not mix. You owe it to your Christian testimony to be thorough and conscientious. Most students are not so-called "brains," for there are not many geniuses. But students who make good grades are those who have good study habits and constantly forge ahead, seeking out new truths. In his book For Teen-agers Only, Mel Larson makes the ten following suggestions for being a good Christian student: (1) Set yourself a schedule. (2) Make some solid friends. (3) Keep yourself healthy. (4) Do your homework. (5) Get into at least two extracurricular activities. (6) Make the most of your dates. (Make them constructive.) (7) Take part in your class activities. (8) Plan now for tomorrow. (Missionary work? Take languages. Science? Hit the math subjects hard. . . .) (9) Keep up with your church activities. (10) Remember Christ in all you do.

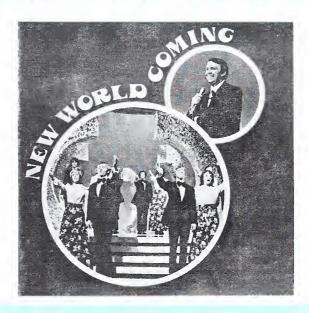
Whether you are a high-school or college student, you can be a dynamic force for Christ on campus. In the midst of profanity, vulgarity, and even denials of God's existence, you can be a glowing light for God by your words, fitly spoken, and by your life, con-

sistently lived.

Unsaved students, bobbing in the sea of sin, desperatcly need the lifeline of Christian hope. You must not fail them. The cross of Christ lifted high on campus—by tract distribution, by personal witnessing, and by godly living—will make the erring ones cognizant of the living, vibrant Savior and will attract some of them to Him.

Therefore, as you return to the classroom this month, your purpose for being there will be twofold. First, you will return to further your training—learning more about persons, places, and things. Even in this, your ultimate goal will be to serve Christ. (I overheard a twelve-year-old praying this prayer: "Lord, help me to be a good student now, so that I may grow up to be a well-trained worker for You.") Second, you will return to let Christ's light shine forth, to let others know by your attitude and testimony that you are following the Lord. A youth who is a good student and a good Christian is a mighty important person these days—and very rare indeed!

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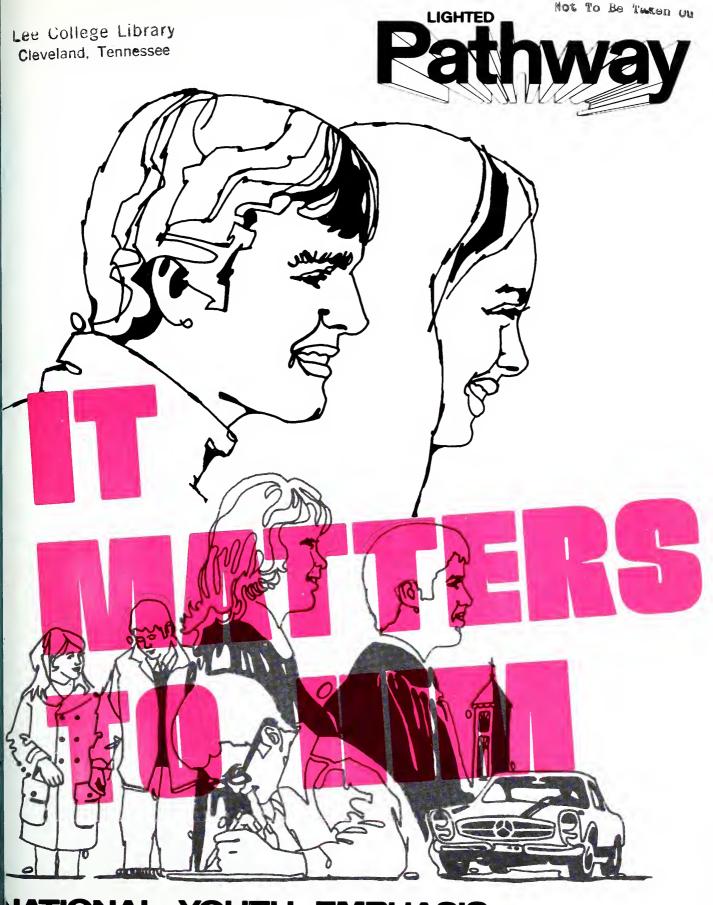
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OCTOBER 11,12,13 SE30'74

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MAM





Each month Clyne W. Buxton and his staff prayerfully prepare the LIGHTED PATHWAY, a magazine designed to minister to youth throughout the world.



Giving full support to the work of the LIGHTED PATHWAY, Cecil R. Guiles carries a heavy burden to win youth and give them spiritual nurture.



Reaching young people from the pulpit and with his pen, Floyd D. Carey writes regularly for the LIGHTED PATHWAY and lends other valuable assistance to the magazine.

TERS TOHM

"Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever" (Hebrews 13:8)

Some youth seem to think that this verse implies that Jesus is an old fogy and that those who pledge their allegiance to Him are unable to face real life as it is. This is an inaccurate and joy-depriving conclusion. The word *yesterday* in this passage does not refer to the going trends or behavior patterns of a set time in history—it has an entirely different meaning. And praise the Lord it does!

It relates to the changelessness of the authority and power of Jesus and His ability to help people live a plus life, regardless of their age, their environment, or the perplexing circumstances they may confront. Wow! What a verse!

The force of the life of Jesus can best be summed up in the word *love*. Jesus loved people—young people—and this love prompted Him to help them: He provided solutions for their perplexities, new capacities for experiencing, and the substance for facing real life as it is. He gave them these joy-founded gifts because He loved them—it mattered to Him about their needs and happiness. Glory! Christ has not changed. The needs and happiness of young people today matter to Him. He has the solutions, the new capacities, and the substance for

a plus life; and He is ready to respond to youth who pledge their allegiance to Him.

The theme for the 1974 National Youth Emphasis program, October 11, 12, 13 is "It Matters to Him." This issue of the *Lighted Pathway* has been designed to emphasize and to support the goals of this special churchwide youth event. A major portion of the program is given to three study sessions that will center on an in-depth study of music, dress, and worship as it relates to the life-style and testimony of Christian youth. We are living in the last days, and Satan is launching an all-out attack on youth. But you have a defense, Jesus—"It Matters to Him." He will give you what you need to live for Him and to form Bible-based standards regarding the music you listen to, the dress code you embrace, and the manner in which you worship.

"Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever" (Hebrews 13:8). Jesus is the same today in authority, power, love, and concern—"It Matters to Him." We are praying for you and believe that this special issue of the *Lighted Pathway* and the National Youth Emphasis program will support you in living the Jesus life in love, with all its present and future benefits.

Editor

General Director, Youth and Christian Education

Assistant General Director, Youth and Christian Education

BY ROBERT FRAZIER

The Message Behind the Beat

Sound . . . all around. Every day one is accosted with sound. Part of it is noise; other sound is music arranged in some kind of organization and recognizable as such. It can be either beautiful or irritating, varied or repetitious, loud or soft, cohesive or jumbled; but it's all music.

However, music may be good or bad depending on what the writer is trying to say. Almost every song has a message. Consider a George Harrison song from a 1966 Beatles album. In it he satirized the British version of the Internal Revenue Service and pictured them as highway robbers:

If you drive a truck, I'll tax the street:

If you try to sit, I'll tax your seat;

If you get too cold, I'll tax the heat;

If you take a walk, I'll tax your feet.

The last line reminds one: "You're working for no one but me."

Songs do have a message, and on this basis moral judgments are made as to whether a song is good or bad. Many songwriters address themselves to issues of social concern through their lyrics. The most objection-

able points of rock music are that many of the performers are immoral people, and they write some very dirty songs.

Mike Jagger, the stereotype sexy male singer says, "Of course I can occasionally arouse primeval instincts; but I mean, most men can do that. They can do it to so many. I just happen to be able to do it to several thousand people. It's fun to do that. It's really just a game, isn't it? I mean these girls do it to themselves. They're all charged up. It's a dialogue of energy."

Paul Cantor of the Jefferson Airplane was clear about his group's intentions on a television interview: "Our music is intended to broaden the generation gap, to alienate children from their parents, and to prepare people for the revolution."

It is not just rock music that makes immoral suggestions. The smooth voice of Frank Sinatra in the 1966 song, "Strangers in the Night," sings, "Who could know that we'd be making love before the night was through?" and on and on. Or consider the Cole Porter musical comedy, "Kiss Me, Kate," which opened in 1948 and since that time has been





put on by hundreds of high schools across the nation.

Immorally suggestive lyrics are also to be found in country-western music. A fifteen-year old female star sings, "Would you lay with me?" A fellow singer remarked that he didn't know if a fifteen-year-old girl should be singing a song like that. Yet how many teens mouth the words to similar songs and aren't even aware of what they are singing.

The beat is used to gain acceptance in our minds for the lyrics. Soon memory patterns are formed, and one is subconsciously brainwashed into adopting the philosophies of the song. Well, what are we to do about our problem? The ideal manner is to rid the airwave of the trash; most stations do get rid of a lot of it.

That which is left is a more subtle form of immorality. Peter, Paul, and Mary once did a song called "I Dig Rock 'n' Roll Music," which highlighted the fact that disc jockeys would turn down songs "unless I lay it between the lines." And that's the form songs are now taking. That seemingly harmless ditty you've been singing might not be as harmless as you think!

The moral crisis in today's music will not be solved in a studio somewhere. The moral crisis will be solved right between our own two ears. Unfortunately, some listeners are sponges that soak up everything that comes their way. The alert

listener, however, takes care of his own head. He has a system of pigeonholes set up to filter the trash from the good stuff.

About 20 percent of the hits can be called "moral"—they make a strong, positive statement about values. At least 60 percent are "amoral"—they are about the flowers, the trees, or a million other things that simply exist; they are neither good nor bad. Most romantic songs are so unspecific that they fall in this pigeonhole. The remaining 20 percent need to be tossed. These are the ones that clash with Christian principles.

A teen needs to have an invisible strainer in his brain to sort the good from the bad. And if he is hearing too much of the wrong kind of music, it's time that he switch stations. Probably the best advice comes from the Apostle Paul in Philippians 4:8—"Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things."

We must be the housekeepers of our own minds. The listener who is too lazy to do his chores is asking for trouble and a polluted mind. Let's pitch the garbage right back out the door! True, honest, just, pure, lovely, good report . . . "listen" on these things.



oes it matter to God how young people worship? Is it possible to worship in the wrong way? Does the Bible tell us how we are to worship our Lord? These are real

questions teenagers are asking today, and they deserve some real answers.

Yes, God is concerned with how you worship Him. There are thousands of young people who are mixed-up about how to worship the Lord, and it is possible to worship in a manner that does not please Him. Now, God does not want you to go through your Christian life with a bag of question marks concerning worship. He wants you to be a happy and joyful Christian.

"But I thought all worship was spiritual," teens say today.

The Bible tells us about some people during the time of Christ who never really got it all together in their worship of God. They were the Pharisees, and they were very religious. You could say they were the real "goodies" of their day. They were the super spiritual saints from First Church in Jerusalem. They were really turned-on about the way they worshiped: they prayed great prayers, paid tithes, read the Scriptures, and fasted much. Yet, Christ was completely turned-off by the worship of the Pharisees.

The Bible tells us there was something wrong with the Pharisees and with the manner in which they worshiped. Their worship was a hindrance to others (John 9:16, 22). They perverted the Scriptures (Matthew 15:1, 9). They were blind to spiritual things (John 3:1-10). They were lovers of display (Matthew 23:5-7). They were rejected by Christ because they did not worship in spirit and in truth.

Christ tells us, "God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth" (John 4:24). Does this verse mean that every worship service will be "supercharged" and "powcrpacked"? No; neither does it mean that all worship will be dead, dry, and dull. It does mean that our worship must be Bible-centered.

You see, there are many ways in which to worship. We do not worship in the same manner all the time, and all people do not worship in the same way. It is not the outward form of our worship that makes it spiritual; it is our attitudes and our motives that must be right. The Bible does not tell us that we must sing fast or slow, be loud or quiet, run or stand still to be spiritual in our worship.

Worship is not just a "dreamy" feeling we sometimes get when we hear a certain type of song. Worship includes feeling, but it is more than feeling. Worship is the honor and adoration which we render to God. Spiritual worship must spring

from the heart, through the influence of the Holy Ghost, and every act of worship must be guided and regulated by the Word of God.

In Psalm 105 we get a glimpse of genuine worship and a Bible picture of what true worship involves. This psalm teaches us that true and spiritual worship must involve every aspect of your personality. Your feelings, your will, and your mind must be involved in your worship of God.

The Lord wants you to think as you worship Him: "Remember his marvellous works that he hath done" (Psalm 105:5). We must focus our thoughts on Him as He has revealed Himself to us through His Word. Also, our emotions are involved in worship. The Bible says that we should "give thanks," "sing to Him," "praise Him," and "rejoice." God healed a lame man and he leaped (Acts 3:8). Christ cast the demons out of a man, and he was found sitting at the feet of Jesus (Mark 5). They both worshiped "in spirit and in truth," but in a different manner.

The will is involved in true worship because true worship results in obedience. Christ said, "Why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?" (Luke 6:46). It is impossible to worship God in spirit and in truth and not apply the teachings of the Scriptures to your daily life. Your will must be to do God's will.

It does matter to God about the

Come, Let Us Worship

BY TROY A. BAGGETT

way you worship. He wants you to worship Him with clean hands and a pure heart. He wants you to worship Him "in spirit and in truth." Your mind, your will, and your emotions will be involved when you worship "in spirit and in truth."

"O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the Lord our maker. For he is our God; and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand" (Psalm 95:6, 7).



UNIO AMEWSONG

BY MIKE BAKER

SING

Who am I? What am I doing here? Where am I going? Who cares about what I think or how I aet? These are questions twentieth-eentury youth today are asking themselves and those around about them. Christian youth also

are asking themselves these same questions about their contributions to God and His Church.

Throughout history man has sought to express himself both to God and to man by various means. There is one medium of communication, however, that speaks to all men—the language of music. And for contemporary youth, music is where it's happening.

Music is a vital factor in worship; and within the framework of the church, music can cause things to happen for Christ. Through the medium of music youth have an excellent opportunity to make a

committed contribution to Christ.

You as a contemporaneous youth can express yourself to God because you know that you are a Christian whose purpose is to praise the Master and whose goal is to exist eternally with Christ. If you understand this, you will be able to answer for yourself the aforementioned questions.

Music serves as an agent in your continuous development in Christian maturity. But then the question arises: If Christ gives my life new meaning and direction and allows me to express myself to Him in music, does it matter to Him about

the kind of music I offer to Him? The psalmist says that we should "come before his presence with singing" (Psalm 100:2). But you may ask, "What type of song should we sing?" Psalm 98:1 tells us, "O sing unto the Lord a new song." Sing a most excellent song the best that you can offer.

A song of praise for redceming love is a new song, such as has never been sung before. After experiencing the New Birth, the Christian sings a new song—one very different from that which he has been singing. If the grace of God creates a new heart within your breast, it will also put a new song in your heart. Sing a new song that is an offering of praise of the best that you have—not a song which by frequent use has become worn and programmatic. Sing a song, which, being new, is most likely to move the thoughts and affections of one's heart toward God. Sing a song for new mercies; sing a song for new life; and sing a song for new experiences for every new day in Christ!

The Scriptures tell us even more about that new song. Psalm 33:2, 3 instructs us, "Praise the Lord with harp: sing unto him with the psaltery and an instrument of ten strings. Sing unto him a new song; play skilfully with a loud noise." This new song, whether vocal or instrumental, must be presented to God from both the head and the heart and in the best style of which you are capable. It must be presented intelligently—that is, with a clear head and a warm heart.

Paul admonished, "Let the word

of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord" (Colossians 3:16). In 1 Corinthians 14:15, Paul mentioned yet another point of consideration when singing a new song: "I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also." Paul stated concisely that singing must be both with spirit and with understanding. Understanding is an essential component of your performance if your musical witness and worship are to be effective.

Get into action and allow the learning experiences of school life to provide you with a means of meritorious musical expression to your Creator.

So the Scriptures give excellent direction for the music of public praise. They also stress a high standard of skill and musical excellence (see 1 Chronicles 15:16, 22). These Old Testament scriptures tell of those who were to be instructed in music. These were youth who had accepted the challenge to become musicians second to none for the kingdom of God.

Youth in the local church can become an integral part of worship through music. Today's educational system provides youth with an opportunity to obtain musical experience and knowledge. Get into action and allow the learning experiences of school life to provide you with a means of meritorious musical expression to your Creator. Only you can generate the power to become a great musical instrument of praise to God and a prime part of the total music ministry in

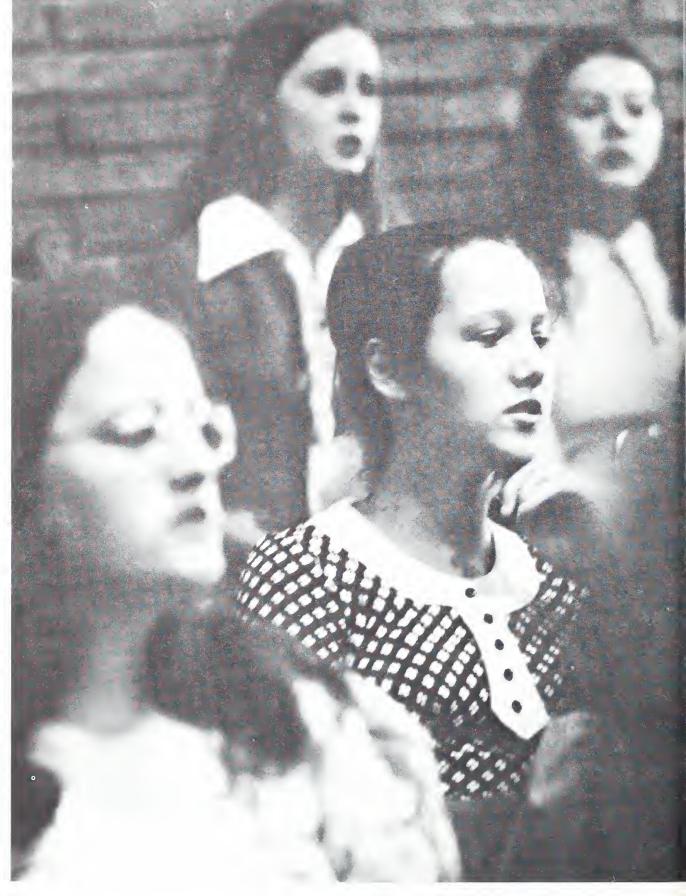
your local congregation.

As you become more aware of what God wants and what He expects from your musical communication—whether vocal or instrumental, solo or group-you begin changing those influences that hinder your musical maturation in Christ. Paul told the Ephesians to speak to themselves "in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs," singing and making melody in their hearts to the Lord (Ephesians 5:19).

Follow Paul's directions. Strive to sing a new song-one which includes musical expressions of differing character that will fit the various religious needs of both the worship service and the worshiper. By so doing you will provide both the listener and yourself with a consistent, well-rounded musical

exposition to the Lord.

You, a member of the twentiethcentury generation, have a firstcentury message to bring and a new song to sing. Christ cares about your musical enunciations to Him. Become motivated by the Holy Spirit and generate the power to share God's love with brother and friend: "Sing unto the Lord a new song" (Isaiah 42:10)! 🕅



To Live 1s Christ

BY LYNN AND MARY RUTH STONE



ow confusing is the complex, ever-changing world of fashions!

It has cast its shadow in every country, across every era of time: the Indian sari; the Japanese kimono; the Greek *chiton* and *hima-*

tion; the Roman tunic, a toga, stola, and palla; the Scottish kilt; the Spanish bolero—all were fashioned by fashion.

Twentieth-century USA is no exception.

Consider the lace collars and collarettes, pancake hats, and long trailing skirts of the early 1900s; the short skirts and high boots of the Roaring Twenties; the square-shouldered backless dress of the Thirties; the figure-eight dresses of the Forties; Christian Dior's "new look" of the Fifties; the anything-everything look of the Sixties. All have strutted across fashion's stage.

For the men there's the long frock coat with silk lapels, the striped trousers, stiff white collars, ruffs, the silk hat, the Norfolk jacket, knickers, the bowler hat, the split-tail jacket, and double-knit suits. All have made their debut since the birth of the 1900s.

Why? What's the purpose of fashions?

The *Encyclopaedia Britannica* is very blunt, when it states, "The lust of the eye and the pride of life: those are the purposes of fashion."

Maybe so, to the world; but not for the Christ-

filled teen.

Does it all matter? Does God care? Does the fashion of our dress really matter to Him?

Thank God, He cares!

Consider Paul's words to the young man, Timothy, who wasn't quite sure of how to cope with this same problem. "Adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety" (1 Timothy 2:9).

Let's note carefully the four italicized words:

1. Adorn. This word stems from the same root as

cosmos or world and means "to arrange or to put in order." God "adorned" the earth with green grass, beautiful multicolored flowers, the blue skies and seas and brought order out of chaos (Genesis 1). New Jerusalem is "prepared as a bride adorned for her husband" (Revelation 21:2), and even the foundations are "garnished [adorned] with . . . precious stones" (Revelation 21:19).

- 2. *Modest*. Coming from the same root as *adorn* this word means "well arranged, seemly, decently."
- 3. *Shamefacedness*. This literally means "downcast eyes, bashfulness." The same word is translated in Hebrews 12:28 as *reverence*.
- 4. Sobriety. The meaning of this term is "soundness of mind, or self-control, curbing one's natural desires and sudden impulses." The verb form is used in Romans 12:3 saying that a person is "not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think."

Now, in a world of flickering fashions, fads, and fantasies, let's try to put this eternal solution all together.

First, Paul said, be clothed "in modest apparel." Let it be well arranged, orderly, seemly, decently, even

as God has clothed the naked earth.

Second, let your adornment, or decoration, or attractiveness not be of gold, or pearls, or very expensive clothing. Rather, be "decorated" with reverence, and a sober mind, through good works.

So dress, so live, that others won't even notice the new dress or suit, though neat and attractive, because of the beauty of the smile, the love in the eyes, as Jesus shines through.

Young Person, dress not to be seen; but dress in

order not to be seen.

Dress not to reveal the body and thereby hide Christ; but dress in order to clothe the body and thereby reveal the Lord who lives in you.

Yes, let's say with Paul, "For to me to live is Christ"

(Philippians 1:21). ⋉

BY DONALD M. WALKER

I Believe in Music... I Believe in Love

Music lovers spend \$150 million annually on rock concerts. There are at least fifty music superstars earning from \$2 to \$6 million a year. In 1973 record sales grossed over \$2 billion.

Think about it. How much have you invested in albums and tapes? Better yet, what kind of music do you buy? If you are a Christian, you should be careful in your approvals and disapprovals of music just as you should be concerning reading materials and other areas of entertainment.

Hold it! Don't turn the page on me! I'm a music lover; and my stereo radio is a traveling companion as I travel across the state I serve ministering to young people just like you. I can probably recall all the records and performers who received the Grammy Awards last March. I'm quick to defend young people on most issues, for I find it unfortunate that all too often the defense of our youth today is made by lawyers. But I cannot condone all of the music you are buying. I could use a full page listing titles of hit songs which I feel are not good listening for Christians.

Whatever is rated in the Top Ten is the choice of some young people. If this is true of you, all I can say is, It's a shame your favorite disc jockey (DJ) has to make choices for you. Some DJs have minds like concrete: all mixed up and permanently set! However, don't be quick to blame

them. Remember: your listening habits tell something about you,

Good music is an artful expression of talent. The proper use of music in a church service creates an atmosphere for worship. Music can act as a catalyst in setting a mood. The classics, rhythm and blues, jazz, countrywestern, and folk are all identified with music.

Your choice of music should be for your entertainment and enjoyment (it should not be earsplitting). Everyone should be able to "whistle a happy tune."

How much of your time is spent with you sprawled out on the floor listening to someone blow a horn, pound a set of drums, or strum a guitar? More often than not, you spend those hours spinning the discs out of boredom—because you think you have nothing else to do. How sick God must get when He sees how we waste our precious time!

Music that promotes an anti-God concept . . . music that is unpatriotic . . . music that is intended to broaden the generation gap . . . music that will alienate parents from their children . . . music that is geared to prepare young people for revolution . . . music that promotes beastly living, rebellion, immoral behavior, indecency, drug addiction, and filthy bodies is just not the kind of music for a Christian! When Jesus Christ comes into your heart, He gives

you a new song (Psalm 40:3). You need to burn, break, and destroy all music that is bad and replace it with good music.

Stong Christian character is determined by your desire to choose that which is *good* and *right* and *best*, regardless of your circumstances or peer-group pressure. Paul said in Philippians 4:8 that the followers of Christ should major in things that are true, good, right, uplifting, and spiritually edifying. There should be no gray area between your public profession and your private practice. God's ultimate plan is to change your desires, not legislate your behavior.

Someone may ask, "You mean

I have to give up my records to be a Christian?"

The thing you have to give up is the toughest thing in the world to part with—yourself. Paul said to young Timothy, "Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart" (2 Timothy 2:22).

On the social level you give up nothing. When you accept Christ into your life, He simply gives you a higher set of values and moral principles. Many things which you once considered important are suddenly insignificant when Christ becomes the center of your life.



and Colon

BY EMERSON AND KATHRYN ABBOTT "What shall I wear?" is the question raised daily by millions. From the first simple garments made by God Himself, we have moved to the complex scene of a \$1-billion-a-year garment business.

Never have we had such a choice of dress. Daily, young people are urged to buy everything from the trad plaid, the big shoes, the ribbed tickler, and the flip knits to the baggy pants, the smock jacket, the shirt topper, and "something from Grandma's attic."

Further, young people are advised to go "as bare as you dare." The fashion world is intent on "uncovering," but the Bible projects *dress* as a "covering." God clothed man to hide his nakedness.

"What shall I wear?" For the Christian the answer

demands prayerful thought.

Young Person, you are created in the image of God—with mind, feeling, and will. Your body is a masterpiece of creation—wonderfully and beautifully made. As a Christian this body belongs to God. "Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost . . . and ye are not your own? . . . therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's" (1 Corinthians 6:19, 20).

God expects you to keep your body, as well as your spirit, fit for Him. Because your body belongs



to God, it should receive attention and care. You should look and dress well, for God delights in beauty. Everywhere His creation displays beauty in outline, form, hue, and arrangement.

In fact, the word *adorn*, found in 1 Timothy 2:9, is the Greek verb *kosmeo* from which we get our noun *cosmos*, or "world," meaning "divinely arranged." The very world we live in is a beautiful planet adorned by God.

Such passages as 1 Timothy 2:9 and 1 Peter 3:3-5 set scriptural guidelines concerning our code of dress. The key word is *modesty*. The Bible doesn't attempt to prescribe the *fashions* of an era, but it *does* direct us to dress modestly and "as becometh holiness" (Titus 2:3).

Through your bodily appearance you make an impression on other people, because "man looketh on the outward appearance" (1 Samuel 16:7). In order to have a Christian testimony, and to please God, you must realize that what you wear is very important. Your dress, noticed by other people, should not make a lie of your Christian testimony.

The words *modest* and *adorn* are derived from the same Greek root word, which means "to arrange, to put in order, to be decent or of good behavior."

Modesty and simplicity should be the characteristics of a Christian's dress and behavior. Excessive adornment is out of place. Logic alone dictates that the clothes of a person professing godliness and humility should not be worldly and immodest. The Christian should be known for his love and service rather than his gaudy and way-out dress.

God wants us to have a well-arranged, well-ordered life—inwardly and outwardly. Thus we are advised not to be overly concerned with the outward man (externals), but to give attention and concern to the adornment of the inner man (spirit). A mirror reflecting the inner man might reveal spiritual disarray, unattractiveness, or even nakedness.

"What shall I wear?" Before you decide, check your motive. Ask yourself, "Why did I select that particular dress or suit? Was it to attract attention to myself? to court that second glance? to rebel against authority—parents or church?"

God is not displeased with nice clothes. In fact, in the book of Proverbs a good woman was commended who clothed her household in scarlet and herself with silks and purple (Proverbs 31:22). But spending hours at the clothing store and an excessive amount of time before the mirror, with no time to pray, displeases God and grieves the Holy Ghost. Be honest with the Holy Spirit. For what we love most, we are. To be so caught up with fashion that we neglect the preparation and adornment of the soul is one of the tragedies of our times. Dress for selfish and sexual attraction grieves God.

"What shall I wear?" Before you finally decide, you must answer the question: Will my adorning and behavior bring glory and honor to Christ?

The inner man is the source from which all spiritual strength flows. Only by keeping ourselves pure inside will we have the will and the power to follow scriptural admonitions concerning the outside.

As we said before, both 1 Timothy 2:9 and 1 Peter 3:5 relate to dress, demeanor, and the inner life. They are knit inseparably together. These scriptures tell us that *inner possession* will speak in *outward behavior*.

"What shall I wear?" Be prayerful, Young Person, and choose carefully. You are dressing not only for yourself, but for others—and for God!

PERSONAL BY CAROLYN DIRKSEN



I kindly smiled at a lonely friend

And hoped she noticed my suit was new.

I wanted to dry the griever's tears,

But my shirt might crease—his touch might soil.

I reached for the hand of a dirty child,

But drew back in time to be safe from his filth.

I spoke of the love and simplicity of Christ,

But they looked at my clothes and turned sadly away.

"... Adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array; But... with good works" (1 Timothy 2:9, 10).

I said I worshiped a righteous God,

But the words of my song spoke the lust of life.

I tuned my ear to the still small voice,

But flooded my mind with the crashing of drums. I tried to respond to His rhythm of love,

But I moved to the pulse of a closer world.

I solemnly fixed my thoughts on Him,

But the singer's words lured my mind toward dust. "Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength, and my redeemer" (Psalm 19:14).

I fell on my knees to worship my God,

But a friend looked on, so I whispered instead. My heart burst with grief, and I ached for His touch, But they said "testify," so I spouted false joy.

I prayed in my closet where no one could hear,

But they called me unholy, so I prayed in the streets. I called on the God of the universe;

He listened while I imitated His saints.

"O come, let us sing unto the Lord: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation. Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms" (Psalm 95:1, 2).

"Hello... I'm Wilbur Miller. If you're like I used to be, maybe you can't see yourself being a well paid Christian businessman.

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- This business can provide a sizeable extra income, or become your principal source of income.
- Husband and wife can work together.

"Didn't I say it was unusual? I won't mention income figures, but I can assure you that there is the potential for many people to earn more in this business on a part-time basis than they earn in their full-time occupation.

"I don't know what your idea of having your own business is, but I know that after looking into this unique program, you will have a refreshingly different viewpoint of what a Christian business can be.

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IT MATTERS TO HIM

The National Youth Emphasis chorus is a rally-the-forces and release-the-enthusiasm charge for the "It Matters to Him" activities. It should be sung during the opening exercises of the study sessions and the outreach action.

The chorus, written by Charles L. Towler, a noted gospel songwriter, features a catchy singalong folk tune. The lyrics are packed with relevance. As you sing along, you are reminded that

the way you live does matter to Jesus and that the youth believer is somebody special to Him. Also, the singer is prompted to form standards, not according to the world, but in recognition of the One who set him free.

Learn the words to "It Matters to Him," and use it as a personal theme song following the National Youth Emphasis program. Your life will be different —no doubt about it—when you understand that everything you do does matter to Him.

IT MATTERS TO HIM







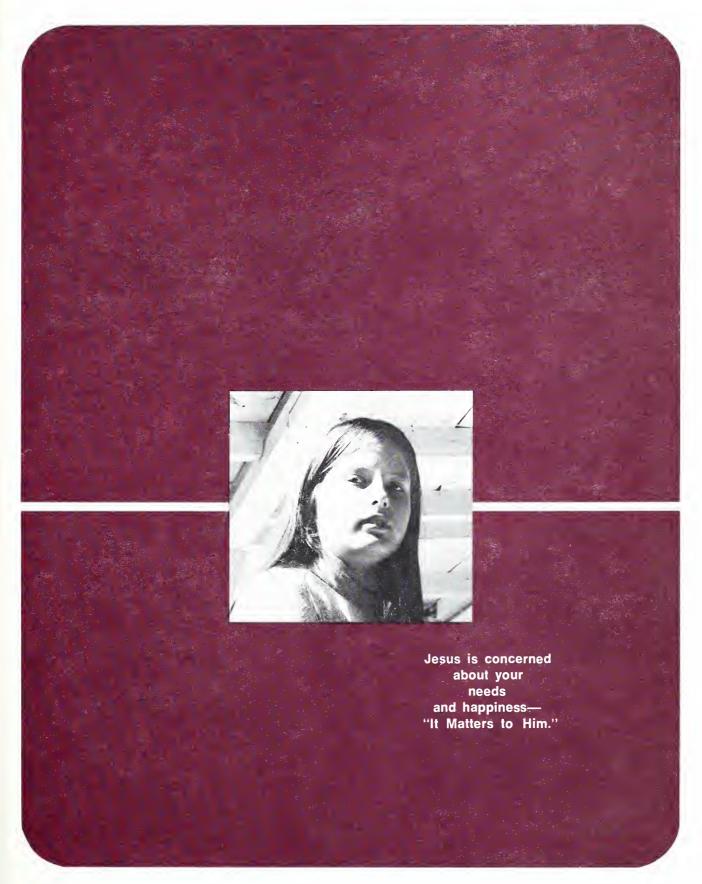












BY JOE PAUL PASS

David Knew How!

In his second letter to Timothy, Paul the Apostle wrote, "Study to shew thyself approved unto God" (2 Timothy 2:15). This word study could very well apply to all the worthy disciplines of life—whether they be science, sports, medicine, or fine arts. One might use his imagination a little and say, "Study to show thyself approved scientifically. Study to show thyself approved athletically. Study to show thyself approved musically." And on down the list.

Whatever one's calling in life, high goals can be sct. One can say to himself, "With God's help, I will be the best in my field of study or work."

Let us examine the example of David in the Biblc. David was probably the best marksman around when it came to slinging a stone. Day by day he worked untiringly on the skill that would eventually save his life from the wilds of sheepherding and make him a hero for his nation. His skill, in time, was so acutely perfected that he affixed one of his fatal missiles into the temple of Goliath, the barbaric Philistine.

During his growing-up period, David probably never suspected that his practicing the sling would pay off in such big dividends. He was just an unassuming shepherd boy that loved his parents and tended his flock. However, day by day his skill became greater and greater as he practiced and utilized his talent; and one day God used his ability for more than just scar-

ing off wolves, bears, and lions! When David's day of days arrived, God used him to become a champion for the nation!

Each of us may someday encounter our own personal Goliath. Each day of drill on a difficult passage, or each hurdle of technique and exercise, takes us one step closer to preparing us for our "day of victory."

Let us examine more closely exactly what practice does:

Practice helps us to perfect our skills. However, the old adage that "practice makes perfect" is true only if the practice procedure is correct. A good teacher can show the right way.

Practice helps to build our confidence. The greater part of confidence is preparedness. Remember David: after he had practiced and done his best, God did the rest. If one wants more confidence, then he should practice relentlessly. A parallel to this idea is the admonition of Paul to the believer: "Pray without ceasing" (1 Thessalonians 5:17). To paraphrase, we could say, "Practice without giving up!" Practice helps to discipline us. Most successful individuals are disciplined persons. They have enough control on life to regulate their study habits and practice-time. Many individuals can never discipline themselves to practice. They intend to, but somehow never find time.



And now the question arises: How does one practice effectively? To answer that, try these suggestions: (1) Find ways to make practice enjoyable—and I don't mean bringing your girlfriend or boyfriend along! Friends do not intend to distract, but they do. (2) Set goals at the start of each practice session. Determine to conquer a certain phrase, passage, or play of the coach. (3) Break your practice up into segments instead of one long-hour-and-a-half drudgery. Try practicing twenty minutes; then take a break. Variety does wonders for practice. (4) Practice when you are alert and energetic (if you ever are). Some students like the early morning; others prefer right after supper. (5) Isolate difficult places and perfect them. Playing over already-learned principles is both boring and needless when there are other new and unlearned areas. (6) Strive for quality and not just quantity. Just as reading a book without concentrating on the message is futile, so is aimless hammering on a musical instrument or a basketball shot without applied concentration.

Finally, after one has given himself to the principles of practicing and studying, the next giant step is to pray God's anointing upon that talent and ability. And like little David, God will eventually lead each individual to his own Goliath and day of victory!

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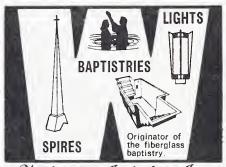
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an you reveal what you really are by elothes you wear? Does what you wear tell the truth about you?

Make no mistake: your appearanee is important.

The impression you give to people is determined to a great degree by what they see. You ean't always present your whole personality and eharaeter in one brief moment, so you have to rely on your appearance to give people a preview of the person you really are.

More often than not, the way you dress is an outward expression of your inward principles, feelings, and desires. You reveal what you really are by the clothes you wear. What you wear tells the truth about you.

Let's not kid ourselves: let's be honest and frank about the matter. If you know Christ and He lives in you, you are going to be different. The elothes you wear will be different—but not in an offbeat, oddball way.

No one expects you to be the talk of the sehool because of the way you dress, and what you wear. But frankly and bluntly, you know what we mean when we say that voung people should wear elothes that are modern, yet modest. The way a teen dresses, or does not dress, ean be the starting point for a lot of trouble.

Don't expect to be super spiritual with an influence for Christ when what you wear draws so much attention to your physical body that vour spiritual graees are hidden. Which is more important in your life: Christ shining forth? or the physical you coming through?

Who is it we are seeking to glorify? Our bodies belong to Christ, and what we wear should always

show this relationship.

If you are sineere in your experienee with Christ, and you really want guidance, then there are guidelines in the Seripture for

Women again must dress in becoming manner, modestly and soberly, not with elaborate hair-styles, not decked out with gold or pearls, or expensive clothes, but with good deeds, as befits women who claim to be religious (1 Timothy 2:9, 10, New Euglish Bible).

The key word in this verse is modestly. When we go to extremes in either direction, it is not aeeording to God's plan:

Your beauty should not be dependent on an elaborate coiffure, or on the wearing of . . . fine clothes, but on the inner personality—the unfading loveliness of a calm and gentle spirit, a thing very precious in the eyes of God (1 Peter 3:3, 4; Phillips).

Perhaps we should spend more time grooming our inward spirit.

In his book Teen Tonic, Floyd D. Carey has outlined this seripture (1 Peter 3:3, 4) as follows from the King James Version:

Whose adorning: The things we do to gain favor;

the things we do to attract attention;

the things we do to gain a feeling of importance.

Let it not be-that outward adorning of:

Plaiting the hair, wearing of gold, putting on of apparel.

Let it be-

The hidden man of the heart; that which is not corruptible; the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit.

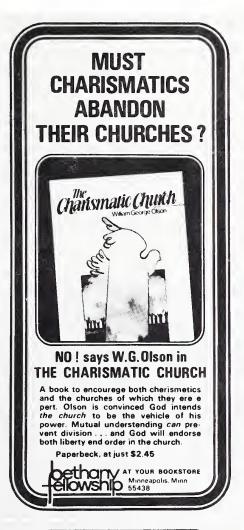
Still another author, Douglas LeRoy, in I Didn't Know That, states that clothes last for a short time, but the graces of a Christian life last eternally. The Christian is to emphasize the inward life, not the outward life.

Peter warned against displaying one's outer self. He said that the Christian's concern should be to reveal the Spirit of Christ. Cloththat overemphasizes physical form instead of enhancing the Christian life must be classed as unacceptable.

bodies are like store Our windows. The devil knows it. We need to be careful how we dress them. We can make the merchandise so enticing and alluring that the passerby will be tempted to commit crime in order to possess what he sees. Remember: flesh attracts; modesty quietens the emotions.

When Adam and Eve disobeyed God and realized their nakedness, they made themselves clothes to wear (Genesis 3:7). God also clothed Adam and Eve (Genesis 3:21). So then, we see that nudity, or a lack of adequate clothing, is an outgrowth of sin, rebellion, and disobedience.

Evaluate your wardrobe. Make sure it enhances your Christian testimony.









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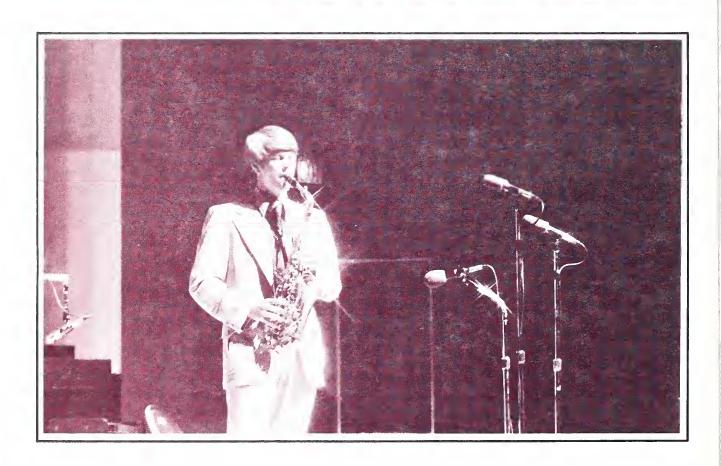
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TRANQUICIMER FOR THE SOUL



BY MARY MORRIS

t has often been said that "music is the language of the emotions." Such a definition reveals the closeness with which music is associated in the expression of our own feelings to others and to God. One great composer, Johann S. Bach, considered his musical ability to be a divine gift from God and dedicated his talent "to God's both his results and religious life.

glory" in both his secular and religious life.

Music critics have often ascribed the beauty of a work, whether sacred or secular, to be of "divine origin," implying that ordinary inspiration could not have generated such an accomplishment. Regardless of the particular emotion being expressed by a composer, or whether music is to be enjoyed just for music's sake, certain aspects about music should be considered.

Music needs a creator. Without a person willing to express himself and to share his feelings, music would not exist. The Scripture says that every heart has "treasure" from which the person brings forth good or evil things (Matthew 12:35).

Music needs a performer. Without persons willing to develop musical skills, music would not have a hearing. It takes at least one performer to re-create that which has been created. Each re-creation is slightly different from the previous one, giving fresh insights into that which the performer is expressing. Each time David played on his harp, "Saul was refreshed, and was well, and the evil spirit departed from him" (1 Samuel 16:23).

Music needs a listener. Without persons willing to listen, music and the skill required to perform it would not be properly appreciated. For all its outward beauty and appeal to the senses of man, the basic purpose of music is to communicate. Psalm 49 calls for the attention of listeners as it opens with these words: "Hear this, all ye people . . . Both low and high, rich and

poor, together . . . I will incline mine ear to a parable: I will open my dark saying upon the harp" (Psalm 49:1-4).

In whatever position you find yourself in music—creator, performer, or listener—you must exercise care in the development of your talent. In *The Prophet* Kahil Gibran recognized the impact of music when he said, "[Music] . . . though fashioned of dreams, is raiment and food for your soul." Jimi Hendrix, the late rock star, said in a special *Life* feature story, "Atmospheres are going to come through music, because music is a spiritual thing of its own. You can hypnotize people with music and when you get people at the weakest point you can preach into the subconscious what we want to say." It is, therefore, important, Young Person, that your strivings be toward worthy and meaningful goals in music, rather than lesser ones.

As composers, we should be particularly concerned with the lyrics of a vocal piece, being careful to avoid any suggestive elements which deride the Word of God or acceptable Christian behavior: "For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh" (Matthew 12:34). The problem of the music itself also needs to be considered. Satan would like to divert the young from the true way to the counterfeit. If the "beat" of the music seems hypnotic or addictive, watch out! It may be obscuring a good message from a good heart (Matthew 12:35).

As performers, we must maintain the highest standards of Christian living in order not to detract from the message we bring. The extent to which young people idolize performers of their favorite type of music is not often realized by the youth themselves nor their parents.

Bob Larson in his book *The Day Music Died* quotes Graham Nash as saying: "I think that pop musicians in today's generation are in a fantastic position. They could rule the world . . . we have the power . . . we

TRANQUILIZER FOR THE SOUL

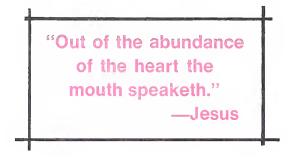
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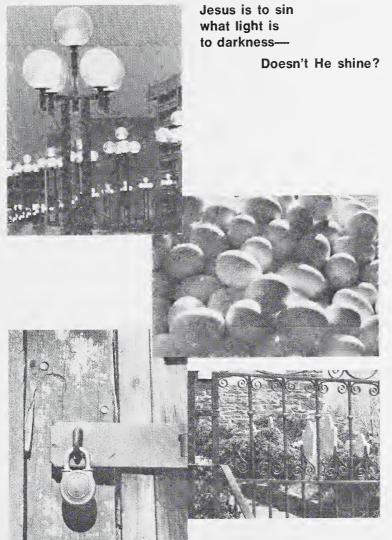
can go on television cameras, we can go on the air . . . so why don't we do more of it?" (*The Christian Reader*, December '73—January '74). Paul admonished us to "walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh" (Galatians 5:16).

As listeners, we must keep before ourselves the points which have been discussed above; and in deciding how to choose the music we hear, we should keep in mind that (1) lyrical content which directly opposes the biblical standard and acceptable Christian behavior should be avoided; (2) the lives of the per-

formers should be considered and whether or not they promote causes that are Christlike; and (3) the music itself should be evaluated as to whether it promotes feelings of emotional and spiritual uplift or feelings that are degrading and demoralizing.

Remember: you should seek any musical experience which will enrich your development as a person. God's special gift of music may be thought of as talent—"treasure"—that has potential for development. Let us give our best to Him as He has given His best to us.





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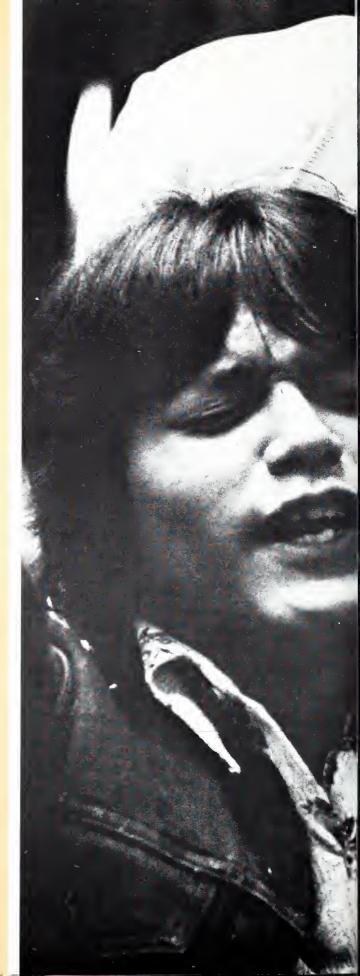


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Editor's Page



BY LAMAR VEST

he skeptic who has swallowed the myth that the church doesn't care about its young people would have been at a loss at the Fifty-Fifth General Assembly of the Church of God. Although the General Assembly is not designed

as an exclusive youth gathering, great care is taken to see that young people are actively involved. Youth are a very vital part of this great biennial gathering. In fact, young people are an integral part of any meeting sponsored by the Church of God.

For the past several General Assemblies Teen Talent has been a vigorous and electrifying phase of the Assembly youth activities. This year was no exception. Teen Talent winners—hundreds of them—from each of the United States converged upon Dallas, Texas, with eager anticipation. There were state winners in each of the three divisions of Teen Talent: Music, Creative Art, and Creative Writing. The quality of talent and the dedication of each participant made the competition very keen. Although national winners were declared, there were no losers. All Teen Talent participants are winners.

YOUTH AND THE FAITH

Continued ____

Teen Talent competition was only a part of the activities planned for youth attending the Fifty-Fifth General Assembly. The activities actually began on Monday night prior to the official opening of the assembly. An overflow crowd, mostly tecns, crowded into the Dallas Convention Center Theater for the gigantic Teen Music Festival. Featured were Tccn Talent music contestants and several special guests, who presented a wide range of musical styles.

The theme for the General Assembly, "Committed to the Faith," was also adopted for the youth





activities, but was expanded to indicate application to the youthful delegates. The youth theme, thus, became "Committed to the Faith for the Future." Thank God, the kind of young people we have does promise our church a great future!

On Tuesday and Wednesday nights, while the General Council was in session, young people assembled again in the Convention Center Theater for two Teen Action Rallies. General Director Cecil R. Guiles opened each rally by informing the youth, "We are here to worship God." And that is exactly what we did. We worshiped God as only dedicated Pentecostal young people can do.

The Reverend Fred D. Killman, state youth and Christian education director of Oklahoma, spoke in the first rally. The Reverend Flynn Johnson, evangelist, spoke in the second rally. Both speakers assured the congregation that, even though we live in disappointing and trying days, there is yet hope: Jesus Christ is that hope. At the conclusion of the preached Word, both services were highlighted by the outstanding youth response to the call for dedication and commitment.

On Friday night, following an outstanding General Assembly service in the Convention Center Auditorium, the teens met again in the theater. This time it was for the Teen Afterglow, featuring Dan McBride, nationally known Christian humorist. With Dan, humor is serious business. He does not present humor altogether for humor's sake; a powerful, searching message is couched in every jocular phrase.

Youth were involved in the activities outlined in this report, but they were also actively involved in other areas of the Assembly program. They attended Children's Rallies and General Assembly services; they gathered materials from the displays and learned more about Church of God ministries.

While its critics predict a sure demise of the church, the Church of God has great hope for the future. Why? Because we have faith in our young people. Because we care enough to involve them in God's work now and because we recognize them as a vital part of any function sponsored by the church. Because we have young people who are "committed to the faith for the future."

Do All to the Glory of God

NATIONAL TEEN TALENT WINNERS

It happened at the General Assembly in Dallas. More than one thousand young people from across the nation were involved in the National Teen Talent Finals. The participants were state winners that had taken part in a process of regional and state competition that included from five to ten thousand

youth. The program is designed to aid Church of God young people in discovering and developing their talents for the glory of God and for the support of His Church on earth. Congratulations to the national winners and to all the young people who were a part of this Kingdom-building program.

MUSIC DIVISION

Category	Winner (Person-Group)	Church	State
Vocal Solo	Teresa Sullivan	Masseyline	Alabama
Instrumental Solo (Keyboard)	Darrell Mitchell	Troutman	North Carolina
Instrumental Solo (Non-Keyboard)	David Miles	East Burlington	North Carolina
Instrumental Ensemble	Maranatha	Palm Beach Gardens	Florida
Vocal Ensemble	Gap Hill Tccn Trio	Gap Hill	South Carolina
Choir	West Ashley Youth Singers	Charleston, West Ashley	South Carolina

CREATIVE ART DIVISION

Category	Winner	Church	State
Ceramics	Deanna Davidson	Great Falls, Sunnyside	Montana
Graphics	Carolyn Woodard	Indianola	Mississippi
Painting	Elaine Hammonds	Hilo	Hawaii
Photography	Debbie Benker	Lenoir City, Sixth Avc.	Tennessee
Sculpture	Wallace Brown	Ingalls	Indiana
Textiles	Anita Lint	Mount Clemens	Michigan

CREATIVE WRITING DIVISION

Category	Winner	Church	State
Short Stories (fiction)	Annette Hale	Tullahoma	Tennessee
Articles and Essays (nonfiction)	Polly D'Anne Heil	North Belt	Texas
Plays and Skits (fiction and nonfiction)	Marcene Montz	Fort Meade	Florida
Poetry (rhymed or unrhymed)	Patty Lynn Hall	Crisfield	Maryland



This message was preached on Youth Night of the Church of God General Assembly, Dallas, August, 1974. It was a powerful sermon; and at the conclusion, hundreds of youths came forward to recommit their faith for the future. The message was condensed for the Lighted Pathway by the staff.

BY PAUL F. HENSON

9 we have the transfer of power from Moses to Joshua. It was a time of great crisis among the people of Israel. Their noble and trusted leader, Moses, was dead.

n Joshua 1:2-

As I read this story and meditate on it, it seems to me that the way God dealt with His people in that far-off yesteryear is very similar to the way in which He deals with His people even in 1974.

The problems of life do not really change much from one generation to another—they just come dressed in a different garb. And what it took for Joshua and the children of Israel to cross over the Jordan victoriously is the same thing that is needed by people facing the future now.

We Must Have the Assurance of God's Presence With Us

When you know you have His presence with you, you eliminate the two greatest fears of life—fear of loneliness and fear of failure.

The fear of loneliness is a gnawing fear that terrorizes thousands of young people today. Loneliness, as I understand it, doesn't have so much to do with the environment *around* you, as

it does the environment within you. You see, people can be lonely in a big crowd. They can be lonely on the downtown streets of a great city where thousands jostle each other every day. Therefore, if you want to be assured that you will never be lonely, then you must have the continual abiding presence of Jesus within you; for when Christ lives within you, He eliminates forever the fear of loneliness.

Then, there's the fear of failure. This fear paralyzes thousands of young people today who are so afraid they'll fail that they don't even try. But God said to Joshua, "I will not fail thee" (Joshua 1:5). God didn't say, "You will never fail Me"; He said "I will never fail you." And I'll tell you, that makes a vast difference!

Someone once asked that grand old missionary David Livingstone (with his body frail and weak from years of exhausted labor for Christ, and with an arm dangling at his side where a lion had got hold of it and almost chewed it off): "How in the world can you keep going? How can you go under such circumstances?"

And he almost whispered, they say, as he answered, "His words, 'I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee,' is what keeps me going."

I don't know about you, but I'm depending on these sure words of my blessed Lord, "I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee" (Hebrews 13:5).

We Must Have Divine Strength and Courage to Enable Us

God wants you, Young People, to be strong. Paul said, "Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might" (Ephesians 6:10). And John said, "I have written unto you, young men, because ye are strong" (1 John 2:14).

You don't have to wait till you're old and gray and wrinkled and decrepit in order to have this spiritual strength from God. You can have it now while you're young. Be strong in the Lord while you have your youth!

It takes courage to put strength into action. Strength is really quite meaningless, unless you've got the courage to put it into action. And courage is that trigger, that force, that puts strength into action—that turns it loose and sets it free.

God kept saying to Joshua, "Bc strong and of a good courage." I personally do not believe that spiritual weaklings have any place in the program of God. What would Moses have been worth to God had he been a spiritual weakling?

Or, what about Daniel? What would have happened had he not had the ability and the courage to push the wineglass back and say, "No thanks, King, I don't drink that stuff. I don't eat that meat because it's against my spiritual conviction"?

What would Samson have been worth to God had he not had ▶

COMMITTED TO THE FAITH FOR THE FUTURE

Continued

courage to put his strength into action? To my knowledge Samson was not a giant of a man physically. Every time he accomplished something great, the Bible always said, "And the Spirit of the Lord came upon him" (Judges 14:19).

What about Paul? If, as tradition has it, he was only four feet seven inehes tall, he was the mightiest little dwarf that ever lived. Yet, he outprayed, outpreached, outpaeed, outperformed, and outproduced any man that has ever lived since his day. It was the strength of God in Paul and the courage of God that set that strength in motion and enabled Paul to do what he did.

And what about Wesley? He was mocked, laughed at, run out of town, rejected, and severely persecuted. But he shook two continents for God and influenced the whole world to turn toward God.

What about Luther? Finally, when it looked like he had reached the end of his road, he looked up and said, "God help me; here I stand. I ean't do anything else, but I'll stand. Help me, God." That's the kind of courage and strength that I'm talking about.

Can you imagine the strength that it must have taken for our great pioneer ministers—R. G. Spurling, W. F. Bryant, M. S. Lemons, A. J. Tomlinson, and a host of others that I could name—to endure the ridieule, the beatings, the gunshot wounds, the night riders that sought to

break up their meetings, and the almost unlimited persecutions that they went through?

Do you imagine that those people—on that eold and snowy night of January 26, 1907, when they met around the fireplace in the home of J. C. Murphy in the mountains of western North Carolina to hold the first General Assembly of the Church of God,—ever envisioned such a great assembly as this gathered here tonight? Perhaps they did not; but we're indebted to them and to all the others who have brought us this great and glorious message.

Have you ever thought of the courage it must have taken for R. M. Evans to sell all of his earthly belongings, to buy a tieket for a boat ride to the Bahama Islands, and to take his family to another land on the first missionary effort for the Church of God?

And what of others? As I looked down here this morning at that grand old dean of missions, J. H. Ingram, sitting on this stage, I traveled with him for a while under those erude eonditions in which he began his world missionary travels. I thought, What fears he must have had to overcome in order to push out, to carry on, and to stand the trial and the tests that he must have stood.

It also took a lot of eourage for Herman Lauster to take his stand for Jesus Christ, for he knew it could mean Hitler's eoneentration eamp. In faet, Brother Lauster was ineareerated. But I looked in the second row this morning and saw a grandson of Herman Lauster—David, only twenty years old—sitting on the missionary platform. He has already aecepted a eall to the mission field and has said, "I'll go now while the door is open. I'll help and serve while I ean."

There are two types of courage, I think. One is a bulldog-type courage: the person doesn't seem to know what fear is. The other kind is, in my opinion, the kind of courage that a man has when he does what he knows is right, even though he may be afraid to do it.

That's the kind of strength I'm talking about. That's the kind of eourage I'm talking about. Thanks be to God! Courageous people are people who will do what they know must be done, even though fear may lurk in their hearts.

I see this kind of eourage demonstrated all the time among young people. (And if you think persecutions are over, you ought to be on a modern-day school eampus!) To take a stand for morality and spirituality eauses people to look on you as though you're a prude or a square. You eonstantly face the fear of isolation and rejection and ridicule if you stand up for what's right. But I believe that's the kind of eourage God wants us to have.

We Need a Strong Commitment to God's Word to Guide Us

Many have tried to destroy the Bible, but it still stands. The arehaeologists have desperately tried to dig up damaging evidence against it. The geologists have banged away at its precepts with their scientific hammers. Snipers from behind Bible stands and college desks have taken potshots at its precepts. Philosophers have tried to drown its simplicity in the muddy waters of intellectualism. So-called gians have tried to cut its voins. Kings have ordered it to be burned. Censors have ripped it to shreds. Editors have tried to reduce it to a mere classic. Educators have tried to reduce its power and its potency. But I want to tell you, God's Word still stands!

The Bible will prompt you in your perplexities. It will guide you in your gloom. It will direct you when the devil would have you doubt. It will help you triumph, even in your troubles. It will teach you to trust when you're tempted and when you're hungry. It will feed you spiritual food; and when you're thirsty, you can drink from its constantly flowing spiritual stream.

If you'll eat a good steady diet of the Word of God, you'll be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. The Word of God will put spiritual strength on you and in you, and you'll stand. You won't be tossed to and fro by every wave of doctrine. You won't be swept away by every temptation. You'll be able to stand, if you know what the Bible says.

We Need God's Promise of Final Victory to Motivate Us

In John 14:1-3, God said, in so many words, "Don't let these times give you heart trouble. Don't you know if I told you something I meant it? I'll do what I told you I'd do!"

If we can trust God to save us and to keep us, we can trust Him to keep His promise. What a promise! What consolation! What motivation! When you're going to be victorious, and you know you're going to be victorious, who minds the battle?

About five years ago, I boarded a plane right here in Dallas, at Love Field. It was an American Airlines jet headed for Los Angeles. Competition was keen between airlines at the time, and several were trying little gimmicks to try to persuade passengers to fly with them.

On this plane they had a television monitor set up, where, by

"The Word of God will put spiritual strength on you and in you, and you'll stand."

way of a remote camera out at the terminal, passengers could actually see their own takeoff. Each passenger also had a headset, so he could listen to the shop talk between the pilot and the tower.

I sat there excited as I adjusted my headset and got ready to watch my plane take to the air. I heard the men talking back and forth. I remember when the man in the tower told the pilot how many planes were awaiting take-

off ahead of him. Then, finally, he said, "You're clear now for takeoff."

The pilot pulled that big 707 out on the runway, revved up the engines, released the brakes; and that giant piece of machinery lurched and started down the runway, picking up speed until it was just about ready to take to the air. Then, just before he took off, the pilot said something to the man in the tower that I don't think I'll ever forget: "I'm committed."

And just about the time he said it, the nose lifted up and the thrust of those powerful engines pushed the giant plane up into the heavens.

In Los Angeles, I didn't get a chance to talk with the pilot, but I did talk to another airline captain later. I told the little story and said, "What did the pilot mean when he said, 'I'm committed'?"

The captain smiled and said, "What he meant was that he had too much momentum to stop. He couldn't stop. If he had put on all the brakes and reversed every engine, he would still have crashed through the barrier at the end of the runway. He had gathered up too much speed. He was beyond the point of being able to stop. He had committed himself and the lives of his passengers to the equipment of that machinery."

That is precisely where I am tonight. I have committed my life to the equipment of the Holy Ghost and the Word of God. And I am trusting Him.

YOUTH FACUS! GENERA

BY HOYT E. STONE

y Friday night of this year's General Assembly, if you lookedelosed you eould note

a subtle change in the attitude of young people. They still huddled in small groups around the auditorium concourse; they still packed the hotel lobbies; and they still answered the interminable question, "Did you win?" with such modest, quiet-spoken words as "I don't know yet." But there was a difference, a difference of degree.

The tension was yet there, eovered, unspoken. The tension would be there right up until the final Teen Talent winner was announced and the last trophy awarded. But now an optimism had come to the fore, a feeling that comes with knowing there's nothing more to be done. They could only wait.

Thus, voices were a little louder; ealls and answers, a little more earefree; laughter, more natural. Also, one suspected that friendships were forming fast and that many of these young people knew that they were winners already, whether they took home a Teen Talent trophy or not.

Teen Afterglow had been originally seheduled for the Baker Hotel's Crystal Ballroom. Friday night a few young people ended up there, along with some parents who decided to make a last-minute cheek, only to discover the ballroom empty and darkened. The meeting had been moved to

the Convention Center Theater.

Saturday night, long before the announced starting time of 10:00 p.m., the Convention Center Theater was filled and the lobby was teeming with others trying to get inside. Teenagers? Yes. But just as many mothers and dads—all wanting to see and to hear and to be present when winners were named.

The air-conditioner was overworked and the room stuffed up to where, if one thought about it, breathing seemed difficult. But the enthusiasm of youth isn't easily eapped. The waiting game was elapping. Clap-clap. Clapclap-clap. Beginning in the baleony and pieking up tempo, the beat eame faster and faster, until the elaps eulminated in a deafening roar. In front of me a lady turned around, eyes wide, questioning, as if she eouldn't believe what she was hearing. Beside her a mother and dad joined in the fun.

The Reverend Floyd D. Carey started things off with a commercial relative to rock music, announcing a new program designed to teach Church of God youth the dangers and the evils of hard rock. The Reverend Ceeil Guiles was the master of eeremonies. Raymond Pettitt led an opening prayer, and we sang a couple of choruses.

Then eame Naney Harmon and the Victory Voices. They were welcomed with a roar. Naney knew how to handle that enthusiasm, how to direct it. The first song was "A Wonderful Feeling."

More songs followed, the tempo going up: "His Name Is Jesus"; "Jesus Is the Answer"; and, then, "Wrapped Up, Tied Up, Tangled Up."

Finally, stylizing in her own unique way, Naney set a beautiful and somber mood with, "Only Jesus Can Satisfy Your Soul."

The lights darkened. All was quiet. "Our National Sunday Sehool Superintendent of the Year," a voice said, "eomes from Anderson, South Carolina. His name is J. C. Childress."

The spotlight found him and followed him to the stage.

"Our National Family Training Hour President of the Year is John Cambell, from Lagrange, Ohio."

"When there was no longer space at the front of the auditorium, the aisles filled and even the doorways."

Then eame the Teen Talent awards.

From the opening prayer, this year's giant youth rally moved forward with deep spiritual overtones. Seated on the rostrum were youth officials and youth board members. For this night the general officials had moved down to the main floor, front row.

The opening song was "God Bless America." It seemed most fitting. Our nation was in the

ISSEMBLY



throes of an administrative change. Gerald Ford was moving into the White House. Troubles both domestic and foreign, plagued our nation. Yes, God bless America! Everyone sang.

Teen Talent winners were introduced to the General Assembly audience. A number of them performed. The heavy notes of a bassoon introduced, "Heaven Came Down." A girl sang, "Because He Lives"—with hope in her voice,





YOUTH FOCUS: GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Continued



"Some young people today do exemplify the courage and the faith of Joshua."

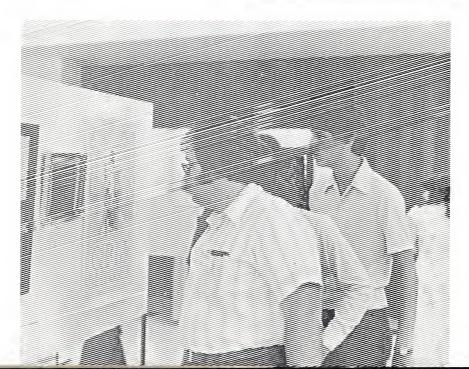
hope in the song itself. We sensed it, and we worshiped. Praises rose heavenward.

Only the floor lights burned. A trio sang, "One of These Days."

A brass band did their rendition of "I Wish We'd All Been Ready."

Then came the message.





The Reverend Paul F. Henson, state overseer of Oklahoma, took his text from Joshua 1:1-9. His subject was "Committed to the Faith for the Future."

"Some young people today," Paul reminded us, "do exemplify the courage and the faith of Joshua: on campus, when they withstand ridicule in order to speak up for morality and what is right . . . among their peers, when they are called prudish and square and yet go right on witnessing for the Lord. . . .

"You, too, can have faith for the future. . . .

"From this story of Joshua, four truths reassure us. First, we know that God's presence will be with us. Second, divine strength will empower us. Third, a firm commitment to God's Word will guide us. And fourth, God's promise of victory will motivate us. We are going to win!"

Paul drovc his points home with sure thrusts of the spiritual sword, leading us toward the climactic altar invitation. When that invitation was given, young people marched forward. From the balconies, from the main floor and the corridors, from all over they moved—a sea of flowing shoulders and upturned faces. When there was no longer space at the front of the auditorium, the aisles filled and even the doorways.

Prayer—the beautiful prayer of dedication and commitment—was a fitting climax to a week of activities that meant a lot of Church of God young people would never again be the same.

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SHAPING FAITH FOR TODAY THROUGH INVOLVEMENT

BY FLOYD D. CAREY

Assistant General Director

In many homes across our country family life is literally falling apart. Some Christian homes are included in this number. During this disturbing period of history, the Church of God Family Training Hour program is dedicated to bringing families together, to holding families together, and to guiding families in living together with respect, trust, and understanding. These objectives are achieved through involvement programs that shape faith for today for each member of the family.

Last November a suggested twelve-month graded curriculum guide was featured in the *Lighted Pathway*. The planning guide this year is phase two of a three-part program. The purpose of the chart concept is to assist local church leaders in outlining a graded curriculum for an entire year. The suggestions may be used as presented or they can be added to or adapted depending on local needs.

Regardless of the location, size, or organizational setup of a local church, the planning guide offers adequate material to sponsor programs that will provide balanced training for each member of the family. The Family Training Hour program divides family members into age groups to study life's problems and potentials so that they can live together during the week with respect, trust, and understanding.

Support the Family Training Hour!

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dered from the Church of God Publishing House. (Most of them are included on the order form.)

Pull Out and File

ing Quarter

FOR EVERYTHING!

I'm thankful for the pastures where the lazy cattle graze . . .

And for the sun that stretches out the busy harvest days . . .

For food and shelter from the sting of north-wind ice and sleet . .

For friends to share, and share alike, life's bitter and its sweet.

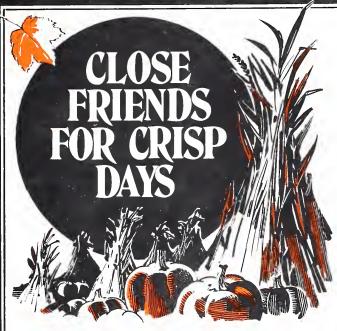
I'm thankful for the surplus I am quietly laying by To share with others who have been less fortunate than I; For, every blessing I enjoy, plus those I may not see, Are mine because someone has made a sacrifice for me.

I'm thankful for the heartaches and the happiness I've known . . . For memories that fill my dreams when I am all alone . . . For life that sleeps beneath the sod . . . for clouds that hide the skies—In each I've learned to recognize God's blessings in disguise.

I'm thankful for my blessings as I count them, one by one. I'm thankful for the ones I miss as down the list I run. I know there must be many more that time to mind would bring; And so, to make my totals check, I'll say, "For everything!"

-Johnnie A. Jones

Editor's note: When Johnnie sent this poem, he attached a note reading, "I am especially thankful for all that the Lighted Pathway has meant to me. It is truly everything its title says."



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Arthur Bloomfield

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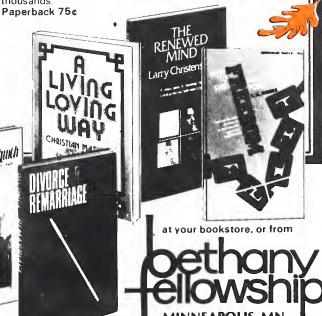
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BY ANNETTE HALE, Tullahoma, Tennessee

he moon was
o u t, though
there was still
s o m e silver
rays of light
glimmering i n
the dusk. The

trees were rustling their leaves as a rambling breeze floated by. Garbled sounds of conversation drifted from the distant village. A figure turned to look down the sloping hill to the little town where the windows glowed from the light within. She gave a sigh, which was almost a sob, and turned again to face her home.

The house was a humble dwelling built after the fashion of the time. Scattered along the path and beside the foundation of the house were wild flowers, which were still in full bloom. The dew had already revived their wilted blossoms that had fainted from the hot midday sun, and they lifted their heads toward the shimmering light of the moon. The house sat on a hill near the village below but, yet, was not a part of it. The stones reflected a glow in the dusk.

The woman paused a moment before pushing open the door of her home. She opened the door slowly, leaving it ajar, till she had lit the oil lamp. The flickering flame gave off little light, but it did put a glow in the cozy room. After preparing her bed, the little woman lay down, letting the lamp burn till the oil gave out. She closed her eyes to try to sleep till dawn, but her mind was too busy with the events of the previous days. She whispered a silent

prayer for peace and rest, at least until the morning, from the thoughts that beset her.

The morning dawned with silent splendor, as the sun rose with brilliant rays of red and orange. The birds were singing their songs of praise, as they began their daily occupation. The early risers in the village rolled from their beds to start their daily activity. The little woman was already up—ready for the day's dutics.

A young man made his way to the small lodging. His face was burnt from the sun, and his clothing and bearing were that of a man connected with the sea. His brisk walk indicated his strength, but his gentle expression revealed his kind and loving manner. He stopped in the doorway of the house and silently watched the woman busy in her preparation of the morning meal. His expression was one of great tenderness and compassion. He softly called out, "Mother."

The woman stiffened before slowly turning to see who was speaking. There were tears in her eyes, and she swallowed a sob. The one word spoken had brought too many precious memories rushing to her mind. She spoke quietly

"John? I thought you were—"
She stopped, as if she could not go on. But then she blurted out,
"My son!"

The young man understood and went to her, placing a comforting arm around her. Gently he reminded her, "I am your son, now. Remember what He said."

She smiled weakly at him. "I

remember. Thank you . . . Son." Then, she quickly turned and busied herself at the cooking to hide the tears that threatened to blind her.

"Are you ready?" the man asked gently.

"Just a moment—while I look around," the woman answered.

He asked hesitantly, "Do you have the tools? Do you wish to take them, also?"

She sighed and gave a trembling reply, "No. Marcus learned the trade and had need of them. He gave a good price for them. He is a good carpenter." She looked anxiously at him and almost pleadingly said, "My Son was a good carpenter, too. He did good work and He was fair."

"Yes. He was fair and a very good carpenter," answered the young man sadly.

"She smiled at him and said, 'You're a good son, John—a very good son.'"

She emphasized again, "And He was a good Son."

"Yes," he echoed, "a good Son."
They turned to leave the small cottage. As they walked down the path toward the village, the quiet woman walked as though she carried a heavy load. She stopped suddenly and turned to look at the kind young man.

A GOOD SON

Continued ==

She sobbed brokenly. "I just don't understand it! I don't understand at all sometimes! Why did they have to do it? He did nothing to them. He loved them. Even the ehildren loved Him. They didn't have to treat Him so! He was a good Son—a good Son, I tell you!" Her self-control left, and she sobbed bitterly in the young man's arms.

He looked down at her with tears dripping freely, remembering the awful events of the previous days. He patted her eompassionately, saying, "I know, Mother, I know." The memories were too fresh for him to speak much more. He too had memories of that Son that had given him so much, asking nothing in return. He spoke firmly to the weeping woman. "It had to be! It was God's will."

At those words, she slowly stiffened and regained her eomposure. "Yes. Though it's somewhat bewildering, it was God's will.

That I do know. It was God's will."

She turned to look toward the home that was hers, but her eyes looked beyond it into the distance as she remembered a time thirty-three years in the past. She smiled faintly as she thought about the small Baby she had held in her arms.

"We should go now, Mother." The young man's voice brought her back to the present.

She looked at his gentle faee, understanding why her Son had ealled him beloved. "You're a good son, John," she told him.

He smiled and squeezed her hand.

The two walked down the slope to the village. She was leaving her home. She knew that she would never return, though John had promised they would be back. It is good of him to provide a home for me, she thought. She knew John must have really loved her Son.

She tried to push the nagging thoughts to the back of her mind and prayed silently for strength to survive in the days to eome. She felt the presence of the Almighty, bringing comfort and relief to her mind and body. She knew He would be with her when the memories of her Son's death might torment her. He would help her through the anguish she felt every time the dreadful thought eame to mind—They crucified my Son! She would remember always that dreadful day He had looked down upon her and provided for her eomfort. She would also remember the glories of His unusual birth. No one, but God, knew the thoughts and ponderings in her heart and mind; and no one, but God, eould help her.

As the eouple walked into the village, Mary looked up at the tall fisherman walking beside her. She smiled at him and said, "You're a good son, John—a very good son."

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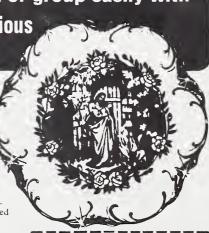
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BY NANCY NEAL

Bluefield, Virginia

he ealendar is erowded with Monday holidays. It is time we stood on our soapboxes and deelared another holiday to pay tribute to

the unsung heroes in the world. "Unsung heroes?" you query.

Today there are songs magnifying everything from world leaders to drugs. Yet, we in the ehureh sit back and take it easy

while a few determined souls strive to keep all departments running smoothly.

These are our unsung heroes—the superintendents, the seere-taries, the VBS directors, the Ladies Auxiliary presidents, the musicians, and the Family Training Hour leaders. To each of these we owe much honor and praise. These are people who work behind the seenes, organizing, planning, directing. They ereate the agendas that keep the teachers and other workers functioning properly.

If the Sunday sehool superintendent didn't stay involved, his staff of teachers would be inadequate and ill-prepared. He has to keep an up-to-date check on supplies, and must select literature to be ordered.

And who would see that it was ordered on time unless a eapable secretary was on hand? Of course, the secretary is also responsible for keeping accurate records and filing innumerable reports.

Those VBS directors! They work hours selecting materials, recruiting a staff, and ordering supplies. What is their reward? Generally, they get a headache from being blamed for problems that arise from the teachers' inadequacies and lack of perseverance. If they are lucky, they have an honorable mention in the church bulletin.

Without the Ladies Auxiliary many churches would not exist. Yet, who thanks the president for supervising the raising of funds for church facilities? The best she can hope for is a handshake or a

pat on the back.

Musicians? Well, they do get an oceasional comment, "We certainly do appreciate the musicians." But are they really appreciated for the hours of study that have gone in just to be able to sing or play well?

That brings me to Family Training Hour leaders. They never shirk their duties as week after week the attendance goes up and down. Some people do not cooperate with them; many will not accept any responsibilities. Everything is dumped right back into their laps.

It is truly a rare moment when any of us pause to think about the amount of effort and the many hours of work that go into any of these positions. While we on earth, however, are failing to give our brothers and sisters their due respect, there is a Father who is watching over His ehildren. His message to these unsung heroes is, "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmueh as ve know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord" (1 Corinthians 15:58).

As I step down from my soapbox, let me leave a few words to you who have been forgotten and ignored. Keep on working, for you ean eonquer all obstaeles. Yes, remember that you can "do all things through Christ which strengtheneth . . . [you]" (Philippians 4:13). One day you shall reap your reward when all the heavenly host gather to pay tribute to the unsung heroes.

MR. SMITH ANDTHE HYPOGRITES

I only asked him to come to church, and he commenced to having fits. He said, "I never go to church anymore, because there're too many hypocrites.

"I know all about Sister Sally—how she ran off with that man.

And the rest of the members gossip so much, it's a wonder the church can stand!"

He said, "I know you all talk about me, though you have no right to judge, So, no, thank you, ma'am, no churchgoing for me. That's firm. I refuse to budge!"

"Mr. Smith," I said, "I mean no offense to you.

But somehow I get the feeling you're not telling all the truth.

"I know you work at the factory where most folks backbite and cuss And about those hypocrites there, I've never heard you fuss.

"You never let your feelings on hypocrites keep you away from the ball game. So why let 'hypocrites' keep you out of church? And don't say, 'It ain't the same'!

"Being hurt and bothered by hypocrites isn't a problem *just* to you. Why even our Lord Jesus was betrayed by a hypocrite, too!"

-Jim Watters

THE DAYMY FAITH MEANT

BY POLLY D'ANNE HEIL

h, no, it just couldn't be! Here I was just twelve years old—facing a year of hospitalization, restricted activity, and bed!

The day was August 6, 1969—my twelfth birthday. Since I was six years old, I had been taken,

twiee a week, to a chiropractic elinic for adjustments on my back. It didn't help me, and I only became worse as the days stretched into years. I couldn't run and play like other kids because my back would tire out and start hurting in such a way that I thought I would die.

I had a disease the doctor called scoliosis. It is a progressive curvature of the spine which, if not treated with either surgery or a brace, progresses in such a way that prolonged illness results in crippling and sometimes death. Without surgery, I would be a cripple before I reached the age of fifteen!

We prayed at our church for healing for my back. We prayed every time there was an altar call. Many of our friends were joining us in prayer and trusting God to perform the needed surgery on my back. Yet, I did not receive my healing.

Some of the people who attended church with us began to question God and felt that He was being unfair. "What had my family done to deserve this?" was the question many of them asked. Both my parents were Sunday school teachers, and Mother taught children's church and vacation Bible school. We were all very active in the church. Our friends (some of them, that is) felt that it

would be understandable if we were not God's children. But I have learned never to question God—He knows best!

I was sure that God would heal me and not make me go to the hospital. After all, He had made me in His own image and had always taken care of me. I had known the Lord since I was six and had trusted Him for everything—so why quit now? I knew God would work a miracle, and Hc did—although not the way I expected.

On Sunday, September 14, one day before I was to be admitted to the hospital, I had enough faith (I thought) to receive healing for myself and for everyone else in the church. I *expected* God to heal me. He didn't! Even though I was not healed, I knew—deep inside—that God had something great in store for me.

I went into the hospital on Monday morning. God had taken away all my fear. This was indeed a miraele in itself because I go wild inside at the thought of seeing a dentist just to have my teeth cleaned! The Lord gave Mother and me the strength, faith, and courage to say, "Here, God, I am Yours. If it is Your will for me to be healed, then so be it; and if not, well, that is all right too."

It was not God's will to heal me—not supernaturally, that is. I was admitted into the hospital on Monday, September 15, 1969, and was scheduled for surgery Wednesday, September 17. Between the time of my admittance and the morning of my surgery, I had a ball! I ran up and down the halls talking with other patients, going up and down the stairs, and having one set of tests and X rays after another. Yes, being in the hospital is a big deal for any twelve-year-old. But most of all, I had an inner peace that said, "Take things as they eome, I will supply all your needs. Everything is going to be okay."

Monday afternoon, a girl who had had the same operation one year before came by and talked with me and tried to give me courage to face surgery—and the period that would follow. I would be confined in bed, flat on my back, for six months, and my activity would be restricted—very restricted. That was the hardest part of all. I knew that

E MOST TO ME

while my friends eontinued their normal school aetivities, I would be in bed—not even able to lift my head above three inches—for a period of six months. The girl really made me feel good; but as she was leaving, Mother walked out in the hall with her. She told Mother that I would be in extreme pain following the surgery for a week to ten days.

This eame as no surprise to Mother, for the doctor had told her the same thing. He had told her that for at least three days after surgery the pain would be so severe that they would have to keep me heavily sedated. Of eourse, Mother did not tell me this because she knew my fear of pain and shots.

Wednesday morning they wheeled me into the hall leading to the operating room. Though groggy from a sedative, I realized that I was about to go into surgery, and I prayed fervently that the Lord would put me completely to sleep before the operation started. A reality of being awake for thirty seconds seemed to be thirty years to me. When I awoke the seeond time, I was back in my room with my parents, grandparents, and many other relatives and friends.

Throughout the extended period of hospitalization and the following eonfinement, I knew no pain whatsoever. I took only two pain pills, and that was because we (Mother and I) didn't know what they were. When Mother asked the doctor and he told her what they were, she asked him if I had to take them. He said that I should not take them unless I needed them. I took no more after that. Praise God! What wonders He ean do if we will only trust and have faith in Him!

Today, I am a junior in high sehool, a nurseryelass Sunday school teacher, and a very healthy and aetive girl. The only major restriction that I have is that I have a stainless-steel rod in my back which prevents me from bending at the waist. It is amazing what one ean do without bending in the middle! Thanks be to God for His perfect will that is not always our will!

Someone has said, "God's perfect will is what we would choose for ourselves if we eould know the end from the beginning."

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AMAZING LOVE

BY THALALIA DODD

West Frankfort, Illinois, Church of God

have never been what anyone might term eloquent, but I feel God tugging at my sleeve to share with anyone reading this the wonder of His love.

Whenever I have disobeyed God and done things my way, instead of His, I have not been happy. Before sitting down to write this, I had to seek God and ask Him for the millionth time to forgive me for being a fool!

The Bible says, "All have sinned, and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23). Well, I'm definitely no exception. But it has been at times when I have jerked my hand out of His—and have felt I couldn't see the face of God anymore—that I have turned to John 8.

The story of the adulterous woman has always held me spellbound. All the town's leaders were ready and waiting to stone her. Jesus didn't forbid them to stone her. He simply said that only those who had never sinned could cast the first stone.

They split! No one qualified, for no one in that Temple was guiltless but the Man before them—Jesus, the Son of God.

Jesus doesn't want to cast stones on us when we stumble and fall flat on our face. He wants to shower us with His love. He wants to say, "Here, let Me help you up. I'll brush away the cares and sins of this awful world and give you a drink of living water."

God will forgive you as quickly as you ask Him to. But don't wait too long to ask. Sin is like a cancer. It grows and festers and will eventually consume you. The father of sin is Satan. The Bible likens him to "a roaring lion, [walking] about, seeking whom he may devour" (1 Peter 5:8). So, if you stick your head in the lion's mouth, call on God. Remember what He did for Daniel.

Dear Youth:

Don't be a dumbbell! The two and a half pounds of gray matter between your ears is put there for a purpose. The brain does a fantastic job of sending messages throughout the body; it stores unbelievable amounts of facts for later recall; and it constantly ponders and reasons out vast amounts of information. However, Dr. Arthur Holmes says the human brain is capable of doing fifty thousand times more than we demand of it.

Now, God may not expect you to use your brain even one thousand times more than you do, but He may expect you to use it more than you are doing at the present. The Bible says that 'wisdom is the principal thing" (Proverbs 4:7), emphasizing that common sense is of great value in the Lord's work.

If you are going to be wise for God, you must do it God's way, starting with learning more about God's will for you. It is amazing how prayer and Bible study will set you to thinking about eternal values instead of thinking run-of-the-mill thoughts. Viewing life from God's perspective will cause you to pray, "Let the things break my heart that break the heart of God."

Jesus said, 'Ye do err, not knowing the scriptures' (Matthew 22:29). Though He spoke those words to unbelieving Sadducees, they could also apply to prayerless, scripturally uninformed young people. You can read and you can think. Hence, read the Book; pray to your God; and then go out and use what you have learned to lead other youth to the Lord.

In summation, use your brain. Season it with the Word; soak it with prayer; and, then, set it in motion for God's glory. Don't be a dumbbell!

Clyne W. Buxton, Editor



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OF PUBLIC WORSHIP

BY DENIECE GUGLER

This was the winning essay in a city-wide contest sponsored by the Sertoma Club of Cleveland, Tennessee. Deniece is a student at Cleveland Junior High School.

Dear Diary:

Today is December 24, 1999. The snow is gently falling outside my window. Everything in the valley below is covered with a lovely blanket of white. What a heautiful sight lies before me! Everything would be perfect, if we could only go to a Christmas Eve service tonight.

Father has told me secretly many times about Christmas Eves when he was my age. Their house was always decorated beforehand; but they spent most of December 24 at the church getting it ready, for his father was a minister.

CONTINUED

When his family had finished decorating, the scent of pine, holly, and spruce filled the air. Candles in every window gave a magical glow of goodwill to the people there. In the center of the church was the beautiful Christmas tree with all sorts of gold and white ornaments, symbols of the early Christians.

But Mother said the most fun of all was singing carols and hearing all the wonderful Christ-

mas stories.

Mother's best friend, growing up, was Frieda Heimlich, a girl of the Jewish faith. During the Hanukkalı season, Frieda often invited Mother over for the lighting of the candles each day at sunset. Mother said that candles were everywhere, filling the room with warmth from their glow. It was a wonderful background for the many cliants and rituals. She and Frieda learned many things from each other.

This is how it was in 1974, according to my mother and father. Today, without religious freedom, things are different. Our country could have retained its freedom of worship if the populace had objected strongly enough when the state began to interfere with the church.

Some people were really upset with what was happening, but not enough people cared to write their representatives, to attend and support their churches, or to insist that these actions he stopped.

No longer can people worship openly. A few years before I was born, the church was subjected to interference in its normal activities and often people who disobeyed were imprisoned or deported.

When Mother and Father were first married, they were very active in the church. My parents have told me they really miss not being able to worship in a congregation. We still have devotions at home, though; but it is just not the same as learning and studying at church.

I so want to sing praises of thanksgiving publicly to my God, but I dare not if I want Father to keep his job. I want so badly to gather with people who believe as I do, just as my parents

did when they were my age.

Many questions I long to ask. Mother has given me her answers, but she is not like some-

one my own age.

A teacher or spiritual leader would also be a great help to me. I am so confused sometimes! I need someone who could help me straighten out my thoughts and guide me along the way.

It must have been very rewarding to give of oneself by attending youth meetings and discussion classes, helping the poor and the sick, or sharing with others what one believes. Why did people take our right to worship as we please for granted?

Americans must not forget how our ancestors struggled so hard for our civil liberties. Surely everyone remembers how the patriots fought so fervently and risked many lives for the cause of freedom. We all know how, in 1776, the people of America proclaimed the Declaration of Independence stating that they would separate from a country that did not secure the people's "inalienable Rights," among which were "Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."

I believe that every man should have freedom of conscience. To take away one's right to worship as he pleases deprives that person of part of his humanity. For a democracy to flourish, it must allow each person to think, act, and make decisions that respect each one's right to worship his Creator in whatever form

his conscience dictates.



BY DOUGLAS LEROY

hat are you worth?

This is not a new question. You've asked it before in bull sessions and in times of uncertainty.

You really don't amount to much on the scientific market. Even at today's inflationary prices all the elements of the human body broken down to their original chemical state would be worth less than four dollars.

Four dollars! That smarts a little, doesn't it? Four dollars—that's you.

But maybe there's more to a guy than skin, bones, and fluid. Jesus thought so. "For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?" (Mark 8:36).

The soul—that's what makes you different. When God created man, He gave him a soul that will last eternally. Nathaniel Culverwell once said: "The body, that is but dust; the soul, is a bud of eternity."

Seneca, the Roman philosopher, said: "The mind is never right but when it is at peace within itself; the soul is in heaven even while it is in the flesh, if it be purged of its natural corruptions, and taken up with divine thoughts and contemplations."

"And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul" (Genesis 2:7).

"Truly my soul waiteth upon God: from him cometh my salvation" (Psalm 62:1).

Yes, God created your soul; and His Son Jesus came to this world and died that your soul could live eternally with Him.

You are valuable in the eyes of God. Why not recognize who you are and what God can make of you. He can increase your worth. Satisfying self is the four dollar route; satisfying God is the valuable choice.

"And they shall walk with me in white: for they are worthy" (Revelation 3:4). ☒

A PRAYER

I see her, Father:
standing apart from us,
surrounded
by a wall of defense
that will let no one in.
I don't know her well, Lord.
Only You know her heart.
Yet, there is bitterness
in her eyes
that You alone can take away.

Bless her, Lord.
Guide her,
though she refuses to acknowledge Your guidance.
Shield her
from the hate boiling within;
and, please, in the depth of her soul
that only You can reach,
touch her, Father.
Take her in Your arms
and bring her home.

—Dorothy Seaman

ave you ever wished that you had been there when Jesus was born? Well, I was—and it was just "splendorful"!

I'm just a donkey, yet God let me be a part of the birth of Jesus.

My master, Joseph, and I had lived a quiet life in a small town. Our household had several animals besides myself. We all worked hard every day, but in the evenings Joseph fed and watered us. Then we would settle down, listen to Joseph talk to a friend, or just watch the stars pop out of a new night.

Then, one day Joseph brought home a lady who was to be his wife. Her name was Mary, and from the time she entered our house our lives were never the

same.

Mary brought with her an unspoken sense of excitement. Maybe you have heard that animals ean sense things. It's true, and we eould tell something special was going to happen to us!

Mary hardly had time to settle into our home before she and Joseph had to make plans to go to Bethlehem. The king required that every person travel to the place of his birth to be eounted and taxed.

As my master and his wife made plans for the trip, I learned they were going to take me, too. That made me pretty happy until I found that I would have to earry everything for the trip on my back.

The day finally eame for us to leave and my back was packed with the many things we would need for the trip.

Joseph was concerned about Mary making the trip because she had not been feeling good. She assured Joseph that everything would be all right, and we began the long journey.

All along the way I noticed that other animals perked up their ears as we eame by. They too sensed what the animals back home had felt—a tingling excitement in the air.

We were tired when we finally reached Bethlehem. Joseph wanted to find a room where Mary could lie down and rest. No rooms were to be had at the inn, but the kind innkeeper said that we could stay in the stable when he saw how tired poor Mary had become.

(A stable is no comfortable place for a human, I suppose, but it was just right for me.)

While Joseph and Mary settled down in the stable, I went outside to watch the stars eome out. I noticed one far off that was brighter than all the rest. It seemed to be moving closer. I thought my tired eyes were playing tricks on me, so I headed back to the stable to rest.

As I eame to the stable, I saw a warm glow eoming from inside. Surely Joseph had not started a fire with all the animals and hay that was in there!

When I went into the stable, I saw all the animals were gathered around Mary—and that glow was all around her. As I eame closer, I eould see she held a Baby!

Hovering over Mary were angels singing, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."

What was happening!

Joseph seemed to understand my astonishment and explained to me that Mary had given birth to the Christ Child and that His name would be Jesus. He was God's Son! Joseph said that everyone sinee Adam would one day praise Him.

It was all too much for a simple donkey to understand at once. So, I nudged my way through the animals and back outside. I needed a breath of fresh air.

As I came out the stable door, I noticed the night had become like day around the stable. I looked up and saw that the bright star had indeed moved. It was now shining right above the stable. Everything in the world seemed to be aware of the Child's birth.

No poor dumb animal eould have felt happier than I to be a part of our Savior's birth. And I realized that no matter how little one is, God ean use his life. He used me, a donkey.

HOLLY, MISTLETOE, AND CHRISTMAS

BY PHILIP L. JEWETT

over the walls with holly! Hang laurel wreaths on the doors! Tie mistletoe boughs in the archways! This is the season to be happy!

It's Christmas—time to decorate our homes and churches to honor the Savior's birth. The custom of decorating with flowers is centuries old, and we use the same flowers today that were popular in the early days of Christianity. It is interesting to note the legends and symbolic meanings that persist today.

Holly, one of the oldest Christmas plants, has been used so long that many scholars believe that the name *holly* evolved from the word *holy*. Holly's shiny green leaves and bright red berries are rich in tradition and folklore.

An old German legend tells us that holly was once ealled "Christ's thorn," and was believed to be part of the erown that He wore at His crucifixion. The same legend explains that holly berries were originally yellow, but that Christ's blood stained them red.

Ivy, while not as popular as holly, has a much longer history. Because of its association with pagan religions, ivy was once forbidden in many Christian countries. England did permit its use on a restricted basis—ivy could not be displayed indoors, but could be used for exterior decoration only.

However, ivy was not an outeast everywhere, for many European countries regarded ivy in a more favorable way. To them ivy symbolized human frailties elinging to divine strength.

Mistletoe is one of the more controversial Christmas flowers. Although mistletoe symbolizes love and friendship in nearly every country, it was not a favorite among early Christians.

It was used to a limited extent in England. At the Cathedral of York, mistletoe was allowed as an altar decoration. But only members of the elergy could place it on the altar. Once there, mistletoe represented Christ as the "Divine Healer of Nations."

Poinsettias are the new world's contribution to Christmas flowers. The poinsettia was named after a former U.S. ambassador to Mexico, Joel Roberts Poinsett. On one of his trips home, in 1829, he brought this flower with him to South Carolina where it grew abundantly.

Mexicans call the poinsettia the "flower of the holy night." A legend associated with the name concerns a poor Mexican boy who was in great sadness one Christmas Eve. The boy was on his way to church, and he had no gift for the Holy Child. Because he had no offering, he dared not enter the church.

Kneeling on the ground butside, he humbly prayed, asking God to forgive him for having no gift to offer. Finishing his prayer, the boy stood up.

Looking down he saw, growing at his feet, a plant with tiny white flowers and brilliant red leaves. Feeling that his prayers had been answered the boy plueked a handful of the dazzling red leaves. Then he entered the church and laid his gift at the feet of the Christ Child. Since that night, according to the legend, poinsettias have always bloomed at Christmas.

Where the Christmas tree originated is largely a matter of which legend you believe. Supposedly,

Martin Luther introduced evergreen trees into homes at Christmas.

As the story goes, Luther was wandering about the German countryside one Christmas Eve. The night was filled with stars and the evergreen forest formed an impressive background for the snow-covered hills. The beauty of the night captured Luther's imagination. Cutting a small spruce, he carried it home. There he set it up in an effort to capture the night's beauty. Later, Luther's family decorated the tree with candy and sweets, and candles were placed on its branches to represent the stars.

A much older legend links the first Christmas tree to Saint Winfrid of Britain. Saint Winfrid, also called Bonifacc, was a missionary to Germany in the eighth century. While there, he happened upon a pagan ritual given in honor of Thor, the Norse god of thunder.

The ceremony was being carried out beneath a huge oak, known as the thunder oak. Near an altar at the foot of the oak a huge fire blazed. Surrounding the fire and the altar were long ranks of white-clad warriors.

Numerous women and children stood watching a Norse priest hover over a kneeling child. The child was to be sacrificed to Thor. The priest advanced with a huge hammer poised over his head. The child was doomed to die by a blow of this sacramental weapon.

At this moment Boniface rushed forward and knocked the priest aside. Snatching up the fallen hammer, Boniface felled the great oak with a single blow. Before the stunned crowd could recover, Boniface began telling them about the life of Jesus. He told them that Christ desired only service and not sacrifice. Looking up, Boniface saw a tall fir towering above the ruins of the fallen oak.

Pointing the fir out to the people, Boniface said, "Here is a living tree without the stain of blood. Let this tree be the sign of your worship. It points to the heavens, for it is the tree of the Christ Child. Take it up and carry it to the dwelling of your chief, for this is Christmas Eve, the birthnight of the Savior. Go no more into the forests to keep your feasts with secret rites of shame. Keep these trees in your homes to honor Him who taught peace and love."

The legend of Boniface is the oldest of legends concerning the use of evergreens at Christmas. Although the use of evergreen trees for decoration predates Boniface, the Christmas tree, as we know it, may have sprung from this centuries-old legend.



FUND OF STREET O

illy, why is it that Sister and Brother Jones will hardly speak to me? They just walked right off when I tried to talk to them and then . . ."

"Mama, I don't know why she said that about me, but it's not true. Mama, it's just not true!"

"I don't want to come to church here anymore. If you're not in one of the favored little cliques, you're a nobody. You're just ignored, and it hurts when we see all the . . ."

Are you blushing yet? Perhaps feeling a little uneasy? Are you smugly thinking, *Our church isn't like that*? Or, are you, like so many people—especially young people—



BY JIM WATTERS

saying to yourself, "Right on, Brother! I know exactly what you're saying!"

Okay, at ease, Everybody. Let's look at these things like Christians—in concerned love for the church and its members.

Irritating inconsistencies, little hurts, oversights, personality conflicts, are going to exist in every congregation. Jesus warned us that offenses are sure to come, but all of us must be especially careful not to offend. Jesus also said, "Woe unto him, through whom they [offenses] come" (Luke 17:1).

Think of that church member who hurt you so badly that you went home and cried . . . that sister who spread a dirty, untrue rumor about you . . . the brother who embarrassed you so much you wanted to shrivel up and crawl under the rug. Visualize each of these in a life-or-death situation.

If that brother were drowning in a riptide, you'd risk your life to save him. If that weak sister were starving in a famine, you'd share any food you had with her. If the brother who embarrassed you were trapped in a burning building, you'd do whatever was necessary to get him out alive.

In all these big emergencies, you wouldn't hesitate. In Jesus' name, you'd put your life on the line for your brother or sister in Christ. Yet, in a little emergency you'd let him or her down.

If you really loved him enough, you'd let him know that he had hurt you; and, then, you'd forgive him. Jesus said, "Take heed to yourselves: If thy brother trespass against thee, rebuke him; and if he repent, forgive him" (Luke 17:3).

AFTER ALL, MOST OF OUR HURTS AND OUR PROBLEMS IN THE CHURCH ARE JUST LITTLE ONES.

Did you ever have an Elvira and Lucretia in your church? (Names here have been changed to protect the innocent, but mostly the guilty.) Elvira was an outspoken lady whose tongue was occasionally sharper than her wits. Lucretia often was hurt by Elvira's austic criticism and was finally bothered so much by it that she told everyone in the church—except Elvira.

Whenever possible, Lucretia began to avoid Elvira; and soon Elvira was smarting from the very real pain of being shunned by someone she liked. So, she soon informed everyone of what Lucretia was doing to her. Finally, the good pastor sat them both down together and tactfully mended what became a treasured, lifelong friendship.

Life is too short, however, to be wasted on such things. The pastor shouldn't have to spend a lot of his precious time patching up hurt feelings and little strifes in the church. Often, sharp-tongued people don't mean to hurt others; and, in fact, may have no idea at all that they have done so. That good church member whose inconsistencies bother you so much might be deeply touched if, in real love and after sincere prayer, you showed him the scriptures and explained why you believe as you do.

Jesus understands our weaknesses-the ways we are hurt and the ways we too often hurt others. Jesus' family, His neighbors, His church, His country, and even His beloved disciples let Him down. He has already unjustly borne every hurt that you may feel. Even while suffering the unimaginable torture of crucifixion and though it seemed that even His Father had forsaken Him, He still loved so greatly, so freely, and so completely unselfishly that He forgave a thief who had reviled Him (Mark 15:32) and bestowed salvation on that dying man.

He forgave them all, even those who did not repent, because He fulfilled that second greatest commandment—"Love thy neighbour as thyself" (Matthew 19:19).

So, when the little hurts don't seem so little, and you feel all full of pain and resentment, just open your Bible to the story of Jesus—especially His last three days. That will help put everything into a little better perspective. After all, most of our hurts and our problems in the church are just little ones.

Terry Williams once said, "If a man lets himself get upset by little things, doesn't that tell something about his size?"



BEYOND SELF

BY KAREN BAGWELL

ne day while meditating upon God, I looked around me and saw the sun, the moon, the stars—all the magnificent handiwork of God. I could not imagine why Hc would love me enough to give His very own Son as a living sacrifice. I didn't know why Jesus cared. I could not understand it, but I accepted it.

From the bonds of sin He had set me free. He had saved me by His blood. With His power Hc had raised me and had given me peace that passed all understanding. When I was tired or lonely, I would call on Him. Hc was my shelter in the time of storm. In the time of hunger His Word was my food. His blessings were so numcrous that I could never doubt His love for me.

Just being a Christian was wonderful, but I had never totally committed my life to God. Somehow my life had a strange emptiness—like a tree without fruit, like a song without lyrics. I had an overwhelming desire for fulfillment. I knew that I could never find the answer by wishing on a bright, faraway star or by seeking the luck that many say a four-leaf clover brings. I knew that I could never find the answer by achieving

fame or gaining wealth. I realized that the only way I could find fulfillment was to turn to God—and I did.

When I made a total commitment to Christ, my life was changed. Instead of seeing myself and wanting my selfish desires satisfied, I saw beyond myself. I caught a glimpse of the "street where the lonely walk," and I at last realized that I had a chance for fulfillment. Pathetic scenes of needy people were impressed upon the screen of my mind, never to be removed. My heart was touched by the sad, wistful smiles; the faces tormented with pain; the tears of a deserted child. I didn't ask why, because I knew.

For me, discovery didn't come with the sound of trumpets or the waving of flags. It moved upon me slowly, the same as the sun moves out of the east and across the open skies: dimly at first, growing stronger, then, finally, bright.

Actually, I never found myself until I looked beyond myself. My life alone is as insignificant as a grain of sand on a beach where there are millions of grains of sand. It is not much; but all that I am and all that I ever may become, because of the grace of God, is the Lord's. My gratitude to Him is more than I can ever express.

Going beyond ourselves, as Christians, is simply choosing the best. Let us not be guilty of being satisfied with the good, but let us want God's very best. This is only possible when we look beyond ourselves—for it is then, and only then, that we can find the perfect will of God.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS? VHFN?

n a cold, wintry night in Bethlchem many centuries ago, God gave Jesus as a Christmas gift to mankind. The exact date is unknown, but many peoples of the world have set aside particular times to celebrate this momentous

The earliest time for celebration is December 6. The Czechoslovaks call this day Svaty Mikulas Day; to them it is the time when the patron saint of the children

comes with gifts.

Holland calls it Saint Nicholas' Day. Presents are disguised in many layers of wrappings, each layer directing the gift to a different person. Whoever has the gift at the last wrapping keeps it. Christmas Day itself is observed with religious services and visiting.

On Saint Nicholas' Day in Belgium, the children awake to find the chairs upset and their rooms in disorder, meaning that Saint Nicholas has brought their

presents.

Those in Switzerland have set aside December 13 for the giving of gifts. On this day it is said that Saint Lucia brings gifts to the girls; and her helper, Father Christmas, gives gifts to the boys.

Many celebrate Christmas on December 24. In Sweden the sender of each gift seals the present and adds an appropriate piece of verse. The receiver must then guess from whom it came.

The people of Denmark also exchange gifts at this time. The following day they relax at home or visit with friends and relatives.

The Norwegians' presents, likewise given on the twenty-fourth, consist mainly of wearing apparel,

apples, and candy.

We in England and America commonly exchange gifts on the morning of December 25, although many of us find a variety of time for Christmas gift-giving.

This date, December 25, is also becoming more and more popular among the Puerto Ricans, who have been celebrating Christmas on January 6, or Three Kings' Day. But January 6, which is also called Twelfth Night, is still a popular date for celebrating Christmas in several countries of the world.

Following a three-week celebration of the season in Italy, boys and girls receive their gifts on this day. The people of Brazil, France, and Spain likewise have chosen this as a time of gift-giving; and the Czechoslovakian festivities extend (from December 6) up to Twelfth Night.

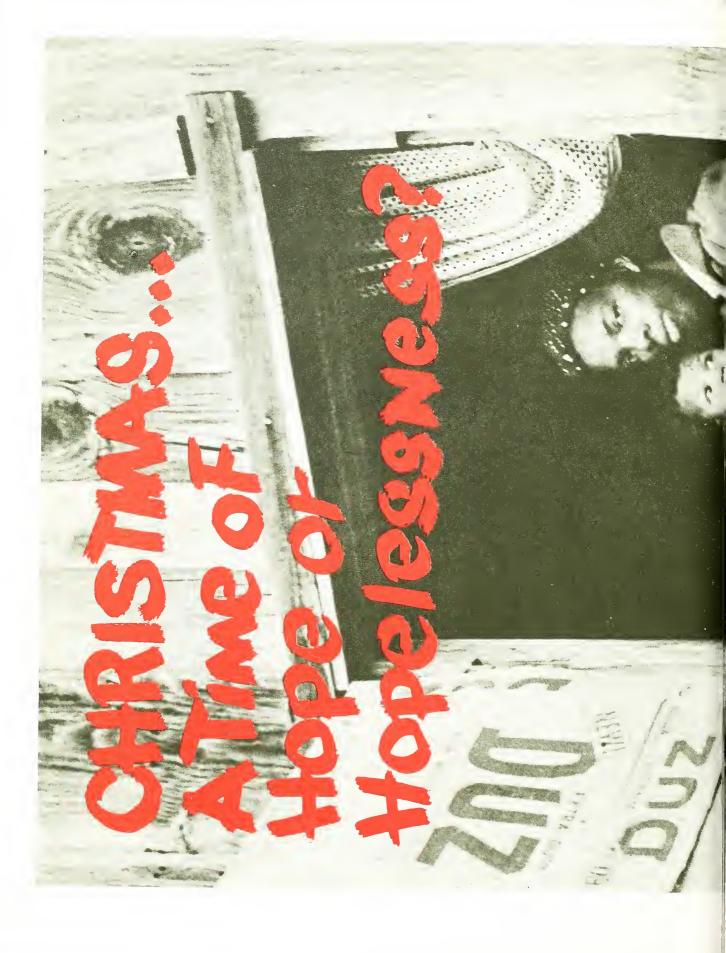
As we can well see, people everywhere choose to celebrate the birth of Christ on different days and in various ways.

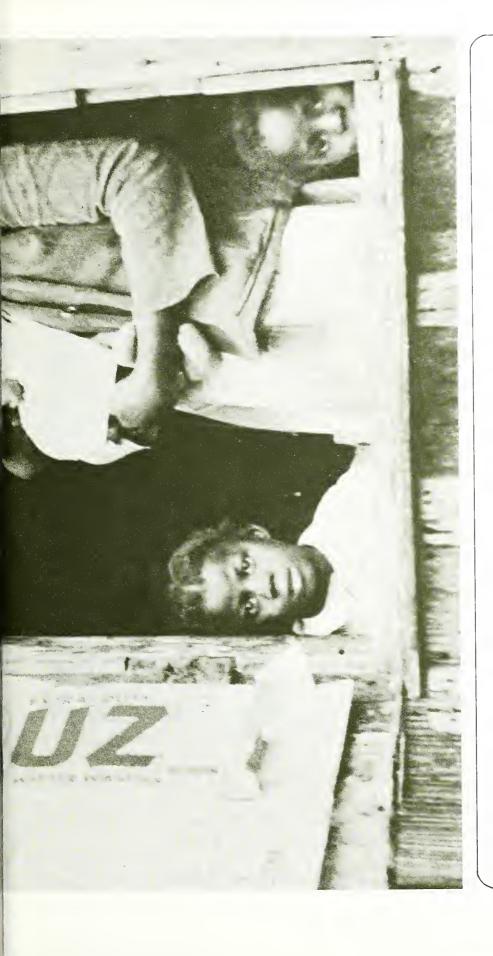
So, when should we give our Christmas gifts? And how?

The day or the method of celebration is unimportant. It is the reason why we remember this special season that is significant. God gave us His Son. No event in all of history is greater than that!

LESLIE E. DUNKIN







"Then they too will answer him: 'Lord, when did we ever see you hungry, or thirsty, or lonely, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and fail to look after you?""

"Then the King will answer them with these words, 'I assure you that whatever you failed to do to the humblest of my brothers you failed to do to me."

J. B. Phillips Translation



DON'T YOU THINK . . . ?

If the innkeeper had been a mother, Seeing Joseph and Mary in their plight, She never, never would have turned them Out into the night?

-Mary Colby Wilder



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SEPTEMBER 1 - JANUARY 1, 1975

3 Categories

* Slogans

* Posters

* Statements

2 Age Divisions

* 15-19

6 Prizes

* First prize: \$25 (each division) * Second prize: \$15 (each division) * Third prize: \$5 (each division)

INFORMATION AND GUIDELINES

- 1. The contest is sponsored jointly by the General Youth and Christian Education Department and the Lighted Pathway to stress the importance of youth in the Family Training Hour program and to motivate them to get involved in it.
- 2. Slogans: All entries must be typewritten (double spaced). You may enter as many slogans as you wish, but each slogan must be entered separately and accompanied by an entry form. Each slogan must be one complete statement or phrase and express one thought,
- 3. Posters: Your entry must measure $8 \% \times 11$ inches. Any color or combination of colors is allowed. Entries may be done in pen, pencil, acrylic, oil, watercolor, felt-tipped pen, tempera, cut colored paper, and paper cutouts. Your poster must depict the Family Training Hour in artistic form. Only two entries per person are allowed in this category.
- 4. Statements: "I believe in the Family Training Hour because. . . ." This statement must be completed in twenty-five words or less. You may submit as many entries as you wish, but each entry must be entered separately and be accompanied by an entry form.

OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM

Yes, I want to be a part of the Youth and the Family Training Hour Creative Expression Contest. Please enter my original work in the division and category I have checked below. I give the Church of God General Department of Youth and Christian Education and the Lighted Pathway all rights to my entry, and all pieces shall become the property of the aforementioned parties.

Signed (your name)		
Division 11-14 15-19	Category Slogan	Poster Statement
Name		
Address		
City	State	anne en an the desiring Zip and desiring and desired and
Birth date (month, day, year)		

Mail to: FTH Creative Expression Contest Youth and Christian Education Department Keith at 25th. N.W. Cleveland, Tennessee 37311

s I sat in a social world today:

age. How will the nations cope with this situation?

2. How can we manage without fuel to heat our homes? The coal supply isn't going to last forever.

3. What about fresh water? The world has many seas and oceans, but we need fresh water to drink. We could always take the salt out of seawater and purify it, but that would cost millions of dollars.

4. How much longer will our

5. Our natural resources are dwindling away.

studies class not long ago, our teacher was discussing the problems developing in the

1. We're facing a food short-

fresh air last? The environment is becoming more polluted every day.

The shortage of petroleum is causing a shortage of plastics. (Most plastics are made of petroleum.) Log-

BY CHERI STARCHMAN

gers are clear-cutting the land, and trees don't just grow overnight! But the world no longer seems to care.

6. Crime rate is climbing higher each year. Many people say that there's no way to stop it—that it's too late to reform the nations!

These are just a few of the many problems in our world today. Right now our very existence depends on what the Arabian countries do about our supply of fuel. In times past scientists have always come up with a solution for all the world's problems. But now they are saying that there are no answers to the problems that exist today.

I heard a minister say the other day that when he was a boy, some preachers were saving then that the nations would have a war over the land around the Dead Sea. He said that he used to look at the map and laugh at the thought of any country battling over a stretch of desert. But today scientists have declared that that "stretch of desert" is the most valuable piece of land in the world. The United States can't afford to let Russia get it, and Russia can't afford to let the United States get it.

Our teacher made the comment, "Eventually all of these shortages and problems are going to wipe out the very existence of man." But friend, this is only God announcing the return of His Son. Everything is falling in place just as the Bible says it will. The end of the times is here. Jesus is coming soon —maybe in 1974! 🕸

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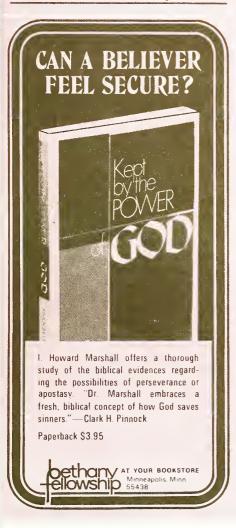
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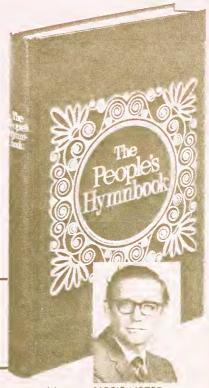
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teen talent

Guiding Youth in Christian Growth Through Experience and Self-development

Floyd D. Carey
Assistant General Youth and
Christian Education Director

he pulsating story is told of a group of young mountain climbers who attempted to scale a treacherous, unconquered mountain peak. Two members of the team were seriously injured in a fall before the summit was reached, and the courageous

expedition ended in defeat.

As the group departed from the base of the mountain, one young man bone-weary and despondent, turned to the mountain and said, "One day we will return and conquer you. You cannot grow any taller, but we can." This dramatic story is actually a story of victory, because the persons involved were led

to recognize their potential for growth.

The Teen Talent ministry of the Church of God, which involved between five and seven thousand persons this year, is a person-centered guidance program. It guides young people in Christian growth through experience and self-development. The program at present consists of three divisions: Music, Creative Art, and Creative Writing. In the fall of 1976 a new division, Bible Quizzing, will be added. The categories within each division and the requirements for competition vary, but the basic goals of the program are the same—guiding youth in recognizing their potential for growth through experience and self-development for the glory of God.

Isaiah focused on the method of guiding youth, as used in the Teen Talent program, when he said, "But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint" (40:31). The order of thought set forth by the prophet is fly, run, and walk. This outline suggests three impact areas of the Teen Talent program. It provides strength for soaring high,

for surging ahead, and for setting goals.

The Teen Talent procedure of personal accountability guides youth in waiting upon the Lord, or depending upon the Lord. The ability to recognize spiritual potential for growth through experience and

self-development must have a spiritual origin. It must be heaven-sent.

The spirit of Teen Talent competition enables youth to soar high—this is feeling. The surging-ahead goal is realized through practice and self-discipline—this is foundation. The strength to set goals is obtained through the constructive comments of the judges and the rating system—this is faith. All three of these areas contribute to the balanced growth and the developmental expression of Christian youth.

The 1974 Teen Talent program was impressively successful. The General Youth and Christian Education Department offered several new aids: program and scoring process cassette, descriptive brochure for each division, choral arrangement book with accompanying record, and scores for brass and

wind instruments.

Several states conducted Teen Talent workshops or clinics. Exciting new methods of regional and state competition were introduced by state youth and Christian education directors. All of these new additions and variations of competition strengthened the objectives and the fruitfulness of the program.

Thousands of young people and hundreds of adults were involved in the program this year. Co-operation and a keen spirit of awareness "to be"

and "to do" characterized the proceedings both in state and national competition.

On behalf of the General Department of Youth and Christian Education, I want to express appreciation to the young people who were involved. "Under God" they recognized their potential for both personal and spiritual growth for the glory of God. Their lives will never be the same because they received a view of God's blueprint for their lives from the mountaintop.

God wants Church of God youth to have a mountaintop experience. His Word supports this conclusion. All you have to do is to start climbing—He is

vith you! 🔀

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OUR LIFE WITH GOD

What is life?
Is it but a momentary existence?
Trouble-filled?
Spent in desperate searching
For love and truth and peace?

Who are we?
Merely objects in an endless space?
Tossed about
On the waves of a vast, stormy sea
With no light to guide us to the shore?

So might it be—
If we had no God to give us life
Never-ending
And to show us the way to the things
We had sought so long and hard to find.

So might it be—
If we had no Shepherd to guide
Us always
And show us our place and value
In the midst of all His creation.

Linda Thomas



HAPPENINGS

n April, 1974, the National Ladies Auxiliary Department sponsored a Name Our Club Contest for junior girls, ages eight through eleven. The Lighted Pathway is happy to announce that the club's new name is "Joy Belles." The winner, Linda Thomas, is from Salisbury, Maryland.

Like their sister groups, the Ladies Auxiliary and the YLA, the Joy Belles will have their own Scripture verse, motto, colors, and flower. The club's Scripture verse will be Psafet 101:2

—"I will behave myself wisely in a perfect way." Their motto is: "We Serve Gladly." They chose yellow and green for their colors. And their flower is the daisy.

Moreover, according to Executive Secretary Willie Lee Darter, the National Ladies Auxiliary Department is busily preparing an achievement program for the young girls.

As an award for naming the contest, Linda will receive a cassette tape recorder. For this and for the honor of winning the contest, Linda says simply, "Thanks a lot for everything."



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SPNSORED BY THE GENERAL DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH
AND CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Winner Teen Talent Creative Writing Articles and Essays Division



BY POLLY D'ANNE HEIL

DARE TO SHARE

could not believe it—
national winner! It
really is amazing how
the Lord can take
something as insignificant as the telling of a personal
experience and use it for His glory!

My reason for entering Teen Talent was to share with you the wonderful way the Lord heals and protects *today!* I always knew the Lord healed, but I did not feel that this healing power was particularly for me. I did not feel that I was important enough to the King of glory for Him to waste His

healing virtue on me. And, to a certain extent, I was right. I, in myself, am not worthy of anything Christ has to offer. But when His infinite love, which surpasses all human emotion, fills our hearts, through Him we are made worthy.

I am grateful that Teen Talent is no longer just a musical exhibit. Now that the program is open to other arts—such as writing, painting, and textiles, to name a few—more people have the opportunity to share the talent the Lord has given to them.

The main point I would like to stress is this: Please, please take advantage of the opportunity to share what the Lord has done for you. Even though you might think yours is the worst piece of poetry or worst painting on the face of the earth, the Lord can take it and make it into a masterpiece for His purpose.

Though not everyone can be a national winner, everyone can enter the program and share with other teens. This feeling of sharing is beautiful; and I believe the Lord enjoys seeing other teens being blessed by the work of teens proclaiming Christ as Lord through writing, painting, and music.

I started writing poetry and short stories three years ago. Not all of my work was printable, but I kept on writing. I sent the manuscript that won in the national Teen Talent competition to another publication; and the editors returned it, with a letter of rejection, because it was not "fitting" for their publication. If it had been accepted, I could not have entered it in the Teen Talent competition.

Many times I grew so discouraged that I just wanted to quit; but when the Lord lays something on your heart, you just have to write it, sing it, or express it in the way that you know how.

When I submitted the essay to Teen Talent, I prayed that God would use it in the best possible way to bring glory to His name. I thought the piece was terrible (so much so that I didn't even keep a copy of it), but felt that I could lose nothing by entering. I knew in my heart that the manuscript would be returned to me as before with a letter of regret that said no. . . . Was I ever surprised when the letter came and said not no, but congratulations!

I was standing in the parking lot of Sears when Mother gave me the letter. (She was as excited as I was.) I was so overjoyed that I didn't even go home. I went to my English teacher's house to share with her the good news. I had not told her that I had entered, so she was really surprised. Mrs. Towns was extremely proud and enthusiastic, and not only was I able to share with her the good news of my accomplishment, but I also had an opportunity to witness to her.

The winning of the contest has proved to be like a pebble thrown in a brook. I received requests to do other articles and was asked if the winning manuscript could be copyrighted and used for the glory of God! We never know what good is going to happen when we give our all to the Master! The Lord only asks that we do our best; and only when we do our best, is He satisfied!

hc sights and sounds of the big city were exciting—and a little frightening. It was my first real vacation, and I had chosen to stay at the hotel while my relatives, who had given me the trip, went to the movies.

I had never been away from home, and soon I felt lonely in the unfamiliar hotel room. I decided, in spite of my fear of getting lost, to go window-shopping and sight-seeing.

But when I stood on the busy street corner, surrounded by the tall buildings and busy sidewalks and streets, I was afraid to move without first finding some kind of guidepost or marker that would bring me back to the hotel.

Looking about me, I found that nothing seemed to stand out in a special way. Then, I spotted a lovely church nearby that had a high steeple with a cross on top. That's it, I thought, when I have walked awhile, I'll look back to see if the cross is in sight and I won't get lost!

I must have walked several miles, going in and out of all kinds of interesting shops and stores.

I remember one time, however, when I made a turn that put the steeple out of view. When I realized that I had moved away from the sight of the cross, I was frantic. Everything in the bustling city lost its appeal until I retraced my steps and found my guidepost.

My tour took me a long way from my starting place, but, at the end of the day, the cross led me safely back to my hotel.

My first vacation left me with many wonderful memories; but it was only while praying, some time later, that the Holy Spirit quickened my mind to the spiritual significance of the cross of Christ as life's guidepost. There on my knees, many years ago, I determined that I would never let the cross out of my sight. And now the words of this old hymn have a special meaning to me:

I must needs go home by the way
of the cross,
There's no other way but this;
I shall ne'er get sight of the gates
of light,
If the way of the cross I miss.

Then I bid farewell to the way of the world,
To walk in it nevermore;
For my Lord says "Come," and I seek my home,
Where He waits at the open door.

The way of the cross leads home, The way of the cross leads home; It is sweet to know as I onward go, The way of the cross leads home!

The Way of the Cross Leads Home

BY MRS. ROBERT D. MORRISON as told to Betty Spence

Mrs. Morrison is the president of the Crichton District Ladies Auxiliary in Mobile, Alabama. She has used this illustration of the cross many times over the years to bless the hearts of countless Christian men and women.

THE TRUE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT CANNOT DIE BY CHRISTINE GILBERT SISK



ince my early childhood, I can remember Mother claiming the salvation of her eight children as promised in Proverbs 22:6—"Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it."

Among the other Christ-related seasons, Christmas has always been a paramount experience for our family. Regardless of whether we were functioning on a meager budget or on a more prosperous one, Christ was always the center of our celebration.

When we were youngsters, we made it a habit to plan and present a birth of Christ program for the family before we opened our gifts or enjoyed the delicious meal. After we were grown and married—each living in his separate place—we continued to get together with Mother and Dad and all the children for Christmas. These extra special occasions ended in family prayer; and, then, we departed to our homes, each one looking forward to next year's Christmas.

Time fails to erase from my memory the snow-eovered Christmas of 1969, when Mother and Dad joined our get-together. Mother (who had been ill most of the year) didn't participate in the conversation or move about much. When we completed our family circle for prayer, we each realized that this might be our last Christmas with Mother.

On January 25, 1970, just one month later, Mother (Geneva Young Gilbert) slipped away to be with Jesus. Now, when we get together with Dad, we miss her; but we look forward to that day of reunion.

Today, five of us, with our companions, are Christians and members of the Church of God. We have each accepted the challenge placed before us; and the seed that was sown, watered, and cared for by our parents is now our charge. Because of this heritage we cannot allow the true spirit of Christmas to die.

Dear Youth:

It would be grand indeed if, instead of the world spending its billons on other people during Yuletide, the money were spent to further the cause of Him whose birthday we celebrate. With such financial backing His gospel would soon reach to every hamlet and village in the world. It does seem a bit odd that everybody gets a gift, except the One who is having the birthday.

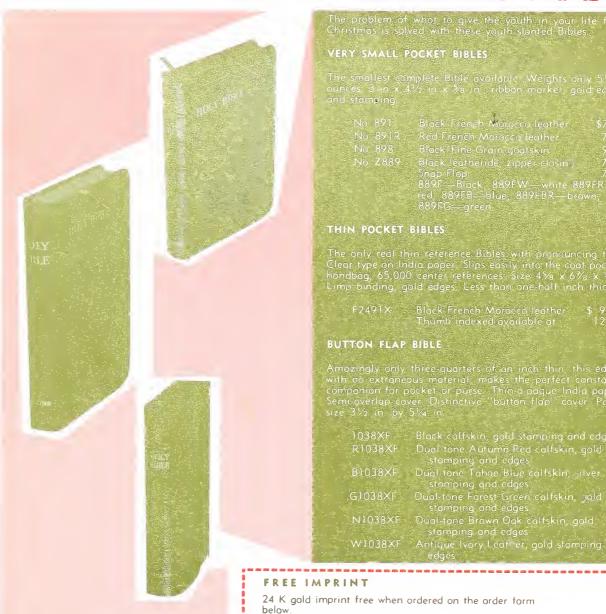
What will we give Christ this Christmas? It is true He needs our money, yet He needs something more vital than dollars. He needs us. Just as we are--frail, limited, faltering--He wants us. Have you tried giving yourself to Him lately? What better gift can you give this year than to totally surrender all that you are and all that you can become to the One who was born at Bethlehem and today is the King of glory? This Christmas let us give ourselves to Him--and mean it.

Such self-giving is not easy. It takes a good deal of fortitude to push things aside in this busy age and with humility g_0 to our knees in prayer with the single purpose of regiving ourselves to Christ, fully surrendering to His will and purpose. At first utterance the gift may be just from the lips and not from the heart. But perseverance in prayer will gain contact with God, and then the heart can make its presentation.

Paradoxical as it may seem, we can hardly give ourselves to Christ without then wanting to give Him to other people; and at this Christmas others desperately need Him. He is by far the most important gift they could receive. Being the essence of hope, He drives out despair; and being the bread of life, He satisfies the hunger of the human heart. He is the Prince of Peace, and He desires to sit upon the throne of each heart. Christ is the most genuine gift of value that we can give this Christmas.

Clyne W. Buxton, Editor

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